The

late night

"I go there at 2 or 3 in the morning to get my grub on," junior Andy Molloy said, "they make a mean Gyro." FEATURE, page 10



October 26, 1999 • Volume 70 • Issue 2 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights,

Candy for costumes

Austin Powers leads list of Halloween picks

By Meredith Edwards Staff reporter

As Halloween draws near, the search for creative costumes heats up.

According to the assistant manager of USA Costumes, a store in the Cleveland area, best sellers this season are "Austin Powers, Dr. Evil, British girls and of course your usual - hippies, witches and devils."

Sean Waganeak, an employee at John's Fun House, agrees.

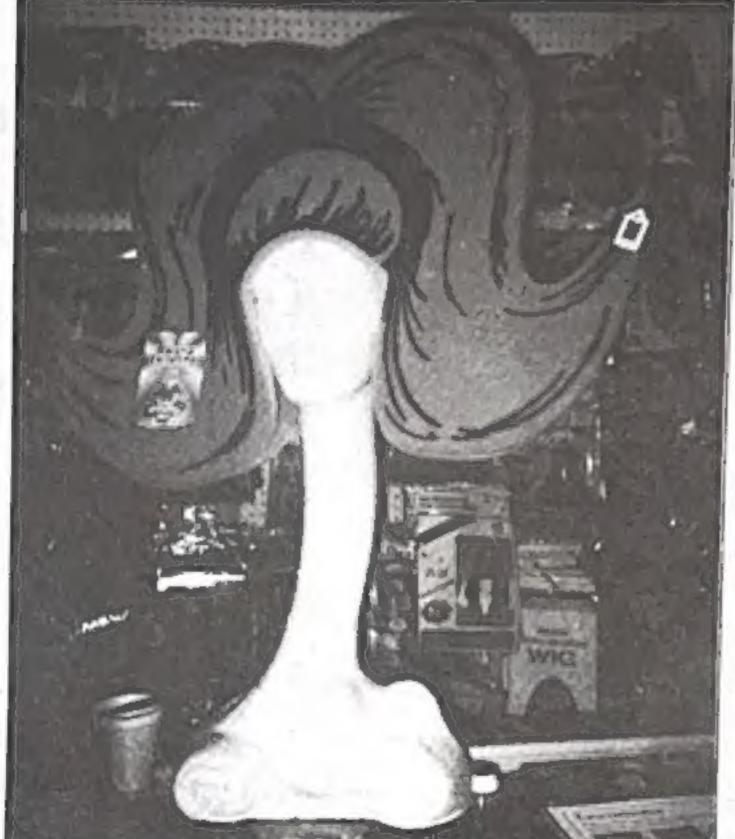
"Austin Powers is big again," he said. "All of the characters are very hip."

Some Shaker students are tuned into the trend.

"I'm going to be either Heather Graham or a Fem Bot," from the Autin Powers films senior Lindsay Zellmer said.

This year Halloween falls on a Sunday, so students can come to school decked out in their costumes Friday, Oct. 29. Student Council organizes the dress up day and will distribute candy to ghosts, goblins and any other decorated folks. Administrators ask that students not wear masks and that they follow the dress code when scheming their look

ropnomore Stephen Midgett will not be wearing a costume this year, "The school already took two of my masks and my vampire teeth," Midgett said







John's Fun House in Euclid is a source for Halloween costumes this year, sporting a mind-boggling array of wigs, masks and outfits.

FIND A COSTUME

Costume stores

- · SPENCER'S GIFTS, in Parmatown Mall & South Park Mali
- . CHELSEA'S Costumes in Lakewood. Looks from specific eras

Thrift shops

- . UNIQUE (1/2 off
- Mondays) . THE SALVATION
- ARMY, Both on Northfield Rd.
- VALUE WORLD, on Euclid Ave. (1/2 off Sundays)

Discount Stores

- . GABRIEL
- **Euclid Avenue** * TJ Maxx, on

Chagrin Blvd.

Government hours spark political efforts

By Carmel Pryor nicipal court judge. Staff reporter

The school bell finally rings. Classroom doors fling open and streams of boisterous students crowd the hallways. While thinking through the exciting events planned for the upcoming weekend, a senior suddenly exclaims, "Man, I've got to do my government hours!"

All twelfth grade students, in order to pass the required American Government course successfully. must complete 10 hours of volunteering. Currently, students can volunteer their time with any of the candidates for the election on Tuesday, Nov. 2. Candidates are running City spots on Council, two spots on the Board of

Education and mu-

"The students

get hands-on experience with the political process. The textbooks are very dry, and this program seems more. real," American Government

"Students can learn a tremendous amount of how politicians think and how to organize groups."

> CAMERON BUCKLAND government teacher

teacher Rhona Pessel said.

Many politicians find this program to be beneficial, but students to gain from the experience and accomplish the SEE VOTE, PAGE 3

Go ahead and Do the Dew! Rumors about soft drink unfounded

By Allison Pollock

Co-editor in chief

Evelyn Wisham has seen some strange things in her 20 years as a high school nurse.

But when two students came to her recently to ask about the birth control potential of a popular soft drink, she knew she'd heard it all.

These students were referring to a rumor about Mountain Dew that was proven false in an Oct. 14 article in the Wall Street Journal.

The article said that rumors have been flying about the effects of drinking Mountain Dew, includ-

FOODS WITH YELLOW 5

- Chips • Tostitos, Donitos Cereal
- . LUCKY CHARMS, FRUIT LOOPS
- Candy . M+Ms, JELLY BEANS, Sour PATCH KIDS

ing lowering sperm count, shrinking testicles and preventing a man from impregnating a woman. According to the article, the rumor has spread from Oregon to Virginia to even Europe, primarily by word of mouth.

Wisham ever heard such a rumor. She said she likes to clear up any fictional tales that students hear, because such stories can be detrimental if believed.

Wisham called Pepsi-Cola Company, the producers of Mountain Dew, for more in-depth information.

"Rumors get you in trouble," Wisham said, explaining why she contacted the company.

Pepsi-Cola wrote a letter confirming the invalidity of the rumor.

Pepsi-Cola Company works "hard to insure the quality, great taste and sands of other products This was the first time products. This "whole-

someness" is reinforced by the fact that Mountain Dew's ingredients are approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in food and soft drinks, according to Christine Jones, group manager of consumer relations for Pepsi-Cola.

The ingredient in question is Yellow 5, a chemical in many foods and drinks other than Mountain Dew. Jones said most foods that are artificially colored yellow contain Yellow 5.

"Mountain Dew has the same ingredients thouwholesomeness" of their have," Jones said in a telephone interview. In her let-



Roopie Marke The Shekurite

Junior Tristan Cullis drinks Mountain Dew, which has faisely been rumored to lower a man's sperm count.

ter she stated that consumers "can be sure that none of these ingredients have anything to do with birth control or reproductive outcomes."

The reproductive sys-

tem is not related to the digestive system, health teacher Christine Russo pointed out. She said she's heard of fabled methods of

SEE DEW, PAGE 2

FREEZE FOR A BAND PICTURE!

"The Pride of Shaker Heights" prepares in the cold for another football game. The tunes of the marching band can be heard resounding across Shaker early in the morning as director Tom Deep whips the large group into shape for weekend games. **Band students** endure the harsh weather until football season ends, when they move on to concert bands.



Four sports not just for men

By Allison Pollock

Co-editor in chief

Picture that plaid pleated Field Hockey kilt, on a testosterone filled, deep voiced field hockey player; a male.

Contrary to what many students imagine, men are not allowed to try out for any women's sports at Shaker. However, women can try out for four men's sports.

Several students disagree with this policy.

"Guys should also be able to try out for women's sports that have no equivalents, like field hockey for example," junior Anne Root said. "As long as

SEE TITLE IX, PAGE 2



Rocce Many The Shakerine Freshman Ann Elliot defends the goal. She will try out for hockey this November.

Harvard study of peer culture hints at achievement issues

Law professor's survey points to students beliefs about popularity

By Karen Jenks News co-editor

On Oct 5, Dr Ron Ferguson, who is conducting research on school culture, met with teachers and MAC Scholars to discuss achievement gap solutions.

In June 1998, Ferguson distributed the Cornell Assessment of Secondary Student Culture to seventh and eleventh graders.

"What we want to discover," said Ferguson, a professor at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, "is why the [regressive] trend over time."

The survey concerned peer culture and study habits.

One question surveyed which traits teens found most important, 62 percent of black males responded with "tough", while 70 percent of white males answered "self-confident and outgoing".

According Ferguson, there are two motives for succeeding: intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic is a love of learning, and extrinsic is stimuli such as passing tests.

Several solutions were



Alison Pollock/The Shakertte

Dr Ron Ferguson patiently listens to questioning students. Ferguson is a professor of law at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and has studied Shaker's student culture.

suggested for the issue.

"We should have the kids write up essays about conversations you have at home when report cards come," said senior David Gilbert, a MAC Scholar.

"We could encourage self-confidence in the middle school by role playing," senior Audie Simon said.

"It's hard to make it

appealing to young black males," MAC Scholar and senior John Martin said. "Priorities now could be 'I want to be cool."

The prominent factor in being cool, according to Martin, is "getting girls, playing sports."

Ferguson and Martin agreed that the influence of the opposite gender is significant. To gain respect, students will develop materialistic traits.

"The girls ain't [sic] looking at your grades," Ferguson said.

The goal is to help students understand the value of an education.

"People are just scraping the surface as opposed to actually getting somewhere," senior Josh Lavin said.

Student chosen to discuss teen violence

Shaker senior Dan George recently attended a conference in Washington regarding teen violence. George, who is also the teen editor of NEXT, The Plain Dealer's teen section, was invited by Ohio's state representatives after he wrote an article on teen violence which

was published in The Plain Dealer last May. George and 350 other students from across the nation spent two days at the conference which was entitled "Voice against Violence," in which they

participated in discussion groups, workshops. The students also participated in an actual Congress session in which they contributed to a bill passed that allocated funds to solve teen violence "It was an amazing experience," said George, "Some kids got mad because they felt that they weren't heard enough, but others felt they were part of a revolution." Meichan Dubysk

PTO to hold dance in memory of Rumbaugh

On November 12, the high school PTO will host a Motown Dance in memory of Dr. A. Jack Rumbaugh. The PTO decided to host the dance this year in order to finance scholarships which it awards to seniors each May. In previous years, the money was raised by calendar sales, but when the PTO decided to distribute the calendars free of charge, a new fundraiser was needed. "The idea came from Jack. He was part of it from its inception," said the dance's co-planner Gloria Keenan Keenan, along with Cheryl Scott, have planned an evening of motown music, food and dancing with generous community donations. "The event has raised a lot of community spirit," said Keenan. "The band is playing for free and the food is being donated by local businesses."

Meghari Dubyek

WHEW sponsors Breast Cancer Awareness assembly

On Oct. 19, WHEW sponsored a Breast Cancer Awareness assembly in the Small Auditorium. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and is dedicated to an increased awareness of the importance of early detection of breast cancer. "Those who attended were definately affected," said C.J. Bott, and English teacher and an organizer of the event. "I wanted to spread the word as much as possible. We hope that the girls went home and shared the information with their moms." In 1999, there were 8,400 cases of breast cancer in Ohio, 2,100 of them resulting in death. The risk of getting breast cancer increases with age, and is more likely if there is history of cancer in the family. If a woman has her first child after age 30 or never has children, she is also at a greater risk.

Pepsi officials and nurse dispell Mountain Dew dehabilitation rumors

DEW FROM PAGE 1

birth control involving soft drinks before, but these all related directly to contact with the reproductive system.

"It just sounds so absurd to me," Russo said, explaining that if Mountain Dew is ingested, the reproductive system is not affected in any way, other than the natural flow of the bloodstream.

Like the myth that Mikey from the Life cereal

box died by eating Pop Rocks and drinking a carbonated drink at the same time, the Mountain Dew rumors have grown into an urban legend

students Enough around the nation have been exposed to this rumor to validate an article in the The Journal. Some students still believe it.

"It's true," sophomore Andrew Kober said.

Other students don't believe the rumor at all

"I don't think it makes any sense - it's not clinically proven," junior Kimberly Wagner said.

Like this one, all rumors, usually false, are started by students for no real reason whatsoever, according to Wisham. Students make something up just for fun, she said, whether they really believe it or not.

"Kids make up all kinds of weird things," she said, "just to have a good laugh."

Made up or not, rumors scatter quickly and dangerously. Many students have reported hearing this story for several years prior to The Journal ar-

"I heard Mountain Dew tends to shrink your wiener, so I avoid it," senior Rashaun Ewing said. Even though the

Mountain Dew rumor has been publicly denied, Jones worries that the attention may spread the rumor further.

"I want to make it very, very clear that our products do not do anything like that," Jones said.

TITLE IX FROM PAGE 1

they play by the rules, there shouldn't be a difference."

However, sophomore Kelly Murphy feels the policy is needed

"If women's sports had men on the team, the men would dominate," Murphy said, "that's why they developed men's and women's sports, to keep

the competition fair." The policy is based off Title IX, which states that "No person in the U.S. shall, on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiv-

ing federal aid." If a student tries out for a team comprised of the opposite sex, the coach goes to Athletic Director Susan Brown to check

what the male to female sport ratio was at the high school.

If there are more men's sports than women's sports, women can try out for men's sports that don't have a corresponding women's team.

Currently at the high school, there are 12 men's teams and 10 women's teams which fall under Title IX regulations, Brown said.

This ratio means that women are not fairly repre-

sented, so they are given other chances to get involved in sports.

As a result, women may participate in ice hockey, wrestling, golf and football.

Brown said men would be allowed to try out for women's sports if the ratio were the inverse, but students disagree.

"Men are a lot bigger than most girls and it would be unfair," Murphy

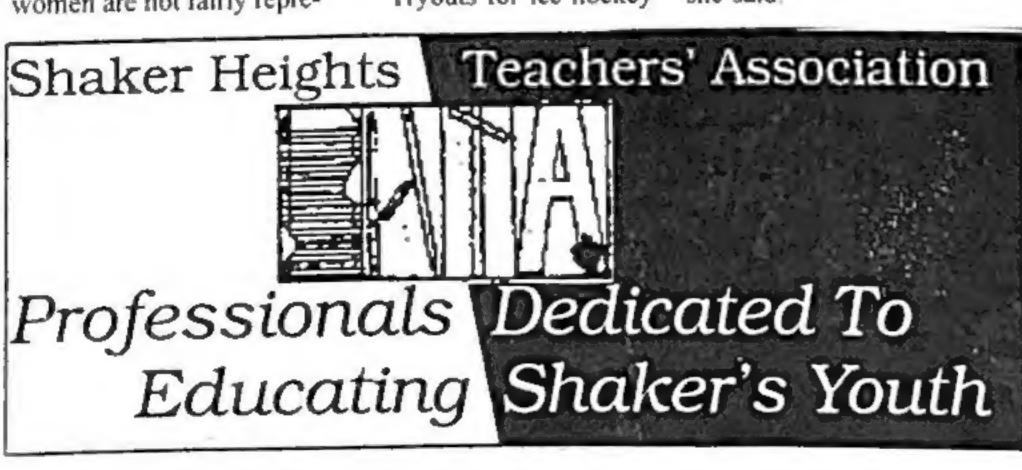
Tryouts for ice hockey

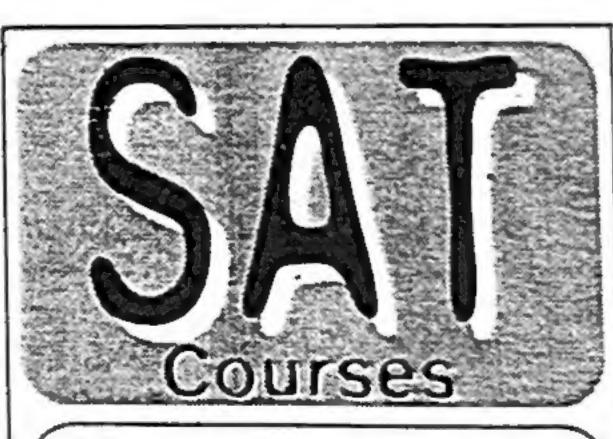
begin on Nov. 5.

According to Brown there are already two women planning to tryout; sophomore Abra Kinkopf and freshman Ann Elliot.

Elliot, already a goalie for the field hockey team, will try out for goalie of the ice hockey team and is not intimidated by male athletes

"If a women likes a sport a lot, she should go after it and not let anything stand in her way," she said.





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'99. Two contending for office of mayor, 12 up for city council positions Election

Mayor Mearns reflects on her career in Shaker and plans for the future

By Loah Kaufman and Meryl Kramer

Staff reporters

Q: Who are you planning to endorse for city council?

A: I am endorsing Brian Gleisser for a two-year term, Jan Deveraux, Earl Leiken, Dick Crews, and Theresa Abraham-Whalley for four-year terms.

Q: Who are you endorsing for mayor and why?

A: I am endorsing Mrs. Rawson because she has excellent experience. Having been on City Council for eight years, she knows the issues that are pertinent. I have faith that she will carry out the projects that I have started

Q: What is being done to improve the parking on the oval?

A: When the gym is finished, a group will convene, led by an oval resident to discuss options.

Q: What plans do you have for the future of Shaker?

A: Plans are underway for a new fire station. We have a really exciting plan for it in the parking lot behind City Hall, to be designed by Robert A. M. Stern, an architect from Yale. He's very excited too. I'd like to see that come to fruition.

Q: How has Shaker prepared for the Y2K problem?

A: The city will be Y2K compliant. We want to have in place an emergency plan. We started planning for this a year and a half ago. We are setting up a command center for that night, and we are putting extra man-power on duty that night All Shaker schools are shelters, and the police will be monitoring traffic from other cities. We're like the Boy Scouts-- 'be prepared'.

Q: What do you plan to do after your term is up?

A: I am going to be the co-chair on the board of the Shaker Heights Family Center. That's a facility that is important in bringing young families to Shaker. I want to get involved with the Shaker Square renovations. I'm also going to travel with my husband. Our first trip will be to Budapest, where my husband will teach for three weeks at an international law program I'll be getting to know the 27 of my grandchildren who live out-of-state. I think that'll keep me busy for a while



Rottin Markt /The Shekertte

Mayor Mearns, who has served as Shaker Heights mayor since 1992, is finishing out her last term as mayor. She plans to travel, spend time with her grandchildren, and work on Shaker organizations.

Rawson and Vovak for mayor

Name: Judith Rawson

Experience: Vice-mayor, council member, chair of building and housing inspection, finance and administrative services, safety, law and pro-Integrative services

Issues: Monitor budget, public service, commercial redevelopment, neighborhood reinvestment.



Name: Daniel Vovak Experience: Shaker Rotary Club

Dick Crews, Stephanie Turner, Carl Harris

and Earl M. Leiken. Four of these candi-

dates will be elected. The unexpired term

candidates are Diana B. H. Merritt, Raymond

Alex Jones and Brian Gleisser. Two of

these candidates will be elected.

board member, former operations manager at North American Van Lines, Citizens League of Greater Cleveland

Issues: Control tax systems, enhance city services, develop and support focal businesses

Absentee ballots available as voting option

County Board

By Beth Dolinsky Copy editor

Each year, as seniors turn 18, they have the opportunity

to vote for the first time, but Absentee voters can pick as they go on up applications for an ubscrive battor ur any college. glect their votlocal library or can ing opportunirequest an application ties. College from the Cuyahoga students can vote by absentee ballot in

of Elections. their local elections According to the League of Women Voters of Cleveland, absentee voters can pick up applications for an absentee ballot at any local library or can request an application from the Cuyahoga County Board of

Elections. After submitting the

application a month before the

election, the absentee ballot is then sent to the applicant. The completed ballot must be sent back and received by the Board

> of Elections. Many students do not take advan-

> option "I forgot to arrange fthe ballot this year carly enough make the deadlines."

said Jakob Rinderknecht, '98.

The application must be submitted before each election and asks only for a current name and address and why an absentee ballot is necessary

"I'm in the process right now, and it's not so bad," '99 grad Amy Libman said.

12 to run for city council positions

There are nine candidates running for a full term of four years to the council and six running for unexpired terms of two years. The full term candidates are Theresa Abraham-Whalley, Jan Deveraux, Deborah Levine Herman, Charles Franklin Marcus,



Theresa Abraham-Whalley

*Experience; SH Safety Committee, Citizen Police Force, Juvenile Diversion Program -issues: housing stock, economic viability



·Experience: City planner,

City Council since April, 99 -Issues: Housing, improve shopping areas and services and city-school relations



Stephanie Turner

Experience: City council for 4 years, banker 21 years -Issues: Youth initiatives, improve housing stock, economic developments



Family Center, Lomond PTO maintanance



Experience: Early Childhood Enrichment Center, Shaker essues: schools, housing

·Experience: not pro-

«Issues: meintenance, re-

placement, improvement of

Diana B. H. Merritt

·Experience: landlord ten-

ant negotiations, residen-

tial and commercial property

through Empowerment through

Community Organizing (board

«Issues: Residential greas,

keep residential standards

consistent, well balanced mer-

chants, improve retail, espe-

cially on Chagnin Blvd

Photograph not invalidable.

Working

vided by candidate

housing

management,

member)

Dick Crews





-Experience: City Council 8 years, Vice-Mayor 2 years, other various boards

·leaues: retail and housing rebirth, city services



*Experience: Board of Shaker Youth and Family Counseling, Board of Public Works decues: Preserve housing, re-

tail tax base, youth programs



•Experience: Waliness Council, Mercer Community Association President •[saues: complacency, institututions and community achools, health, taxes

Charles F. Marcus

Deborah Levine Herman

 Experience: president of Avaion Road association, chairman of Lomond Association/ Shaker Heights police block watch

•issues: community partnerships, neighborhood revitalization, attractive teen center, housing standards lifted, education, Shaker Towne Center needs indoor shopping and parking facilities Photograph not available.



 Experience: past Board of Education president, Family Ctr president, Planning commission elsaues: Interdependence of

Raymond Alex Jones

·Experience: not provided by candidate

•Issues: economic growth and development, use available housing space, public safety, re-evaluate residential and commercial spaces, increase public safety, increase public education opportunities, attract young professionals and high-tech software design companies

Photograph not available.

VOTE FROM PAGE 1

required hours change during non-election years. However, seniors can still find other creative ways to serve the community in years when there are no elections.

"The benefit that students get from doing the hours depends on the depth in which they decide to participate," said American Government teacher Cameron Buckland. "Students learn a tremendous amount of how politicians think and how to organize groups."

Buckland also mentioned that while many students believe second semester government will be easier due to the absence of a term paper and a final, the service hours are more difficult to complete. Few candidates in the May elections solicit student help.

Senior Kirsten Lund, with the goal of completing 10 hours on her mind, walked door to door around Shaker for nearly two hours with Dan Vovak, who is



running for mayor.

"I learned how people react to him differently. They either didn't like him and hated Movers and Shakers or were going to vote [for] him simply because he was a man," she said. "Then there was a lady working in City Council who felt there needed to be a change."

This program also gives seniors a chance to fulfill college requirements for community ser-



Photo courtesy of the Rinderlinecht femily

Taina Conrad squeezes between Jakob and Luke Rinderknecht in her hometown of Goslar, Germany, in spring of 1998. Taina is participating in the Shaker-Goslar exchange this semester.

German exchange program flourishes

By Meryl Kramer Exchange editor

If Taina Conrad seems a little weary by the end of the school day, you'll have to give her a break.

Conrad, one of 24 participants in the Shaker-Goslar exchange, says she loves the open-minded, friendly students she has met here. However, she's a little homesick, as Shaker's school day is about 90 minutes longer than Ratsgymnasium's. Conrad's school is smaller than Shaker, but it accommodates 550 students in grades 7-13.

The differences are no deterrent, however. The Goslar exchange program is in its twenty-first year of bringing students from

Goslar to Shaker to experience a piece of American life. Twenty students are here for three and a half weeks, three students will stay for the semester, and one for the full school year. Two Goslar teachers accompany the students for the three-week pro-

All of the exchange students stay with host can vouch for Ashcraft's families. (Shaker students visit Goslar every summer.) The housing arrangements cut trip costs a great deal. The two teachers stay with German teacher Mary Ashcraft, who along with social studies teacher Todd Torrence coordinate the exchange.

The short term group

visits Shaker high three or four days and spends the rest of the time tour-

Ashcraft noted the benefits of the exchange.

"It's gratifying to me, to see so many lasting friendships that have been formed over the years," Ashcraft said.

Senior Dan Moody opinion. Moody visited Goslar in 1998 with the marching band. He said he left a towel in his hosts' home. When Goslar students arrived, Justin Schmidt brought him a surprise.

"I was glad to see him," Moody said. "I was surprised he remembered my towel."

SGORR shines on Court TV

By Rachel Hutt Copy editor

On Sept. 30, 17 members of SGORR traveled to John F. Kennedy High School to participate in a filming of Court TV's

"Your Turn." "Your Turn" gives students the chance to discuss pertinent issues with community leaders.

Shaker and Cleveland students discussed respect, self-image, cultural diversity, school environment and relationships. Board of Education President Marvin A. McMickle and Mayor Patricia Mearns were also present.

"It was a great opportunity to hear what [students from] other schools had to say," junior Amy Lazarus said. "It was neat

COURTIV Digit Moody/The Shakertte

to see how we all supported each other."

"It was great because we got to see other schools and [realize] that they're going through the same things as we are," sophomore Lydia Watts said.

While there were some disagreements, the overriding opinion was that in order to get respect, you've got to give

The episode will air Nov. 13 at 1 P.M. on channel 57.

· Shaker is hosting two girls, Anna and Svetlana, from our partner school for the entire fall semester. - Russian Studies Club advisor Marge Eisenberg

· Semanteme, the high school's literary magazine, is holding its annual poetry contest. All forms of poetry are welcome. The contest deadline is Jan. 13, 2000, but students may submit other poetry, prose and artwork af-

ter that deadline for possible publication. All submissions should be placed in Mrs. Illes-Johnson's box in the main office. -Semanteme advisor Beth Illes-Johnson

 With 30 members and growing, the unstoppable juggernaut that is Science Olympiad will assuredly crash through any competition lying in its path. Come and join us as we prepare to take the state competition at Columbus. - Science Olympiad

advisers John Schutter, David Klapholtz, Linda Loeffler, Paul Repasy •We still have room for a few more people in the B and C grade ranges. Meetings are Mondays at 3 P.M. in Room 133. - Academic Decathaion advisers Steven and

McMickle interested in Senate spot

Staff reporter Shaker Heights Board of Education President, Marvin McMickle has expressed a strong interest in running for the U.S. Senate in 2000.

McMickle said he will make an official decision by mid-November.

"Five-thousand people have signed a petition asking me to run," McMickle said.

McMickle, pastor of Antioch Baptist Church,

unsuccessfully run for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998. He is past president of the Cleveland chapter of the NAACP.

senator, As. McMickle says he would work for stricter gun-control, improving public education, and cutting urban

sprawl. If McMickle were to win the democratic primaries, he would face Republican incumbent Mike De Wine.

"DeWine has not sur-

faced with any important legislation or policy speeches over the last five years. We need two active senators, and we only have one in George Voinovich," McMickle said.

Freshman William Benish is excited about McMickle's candidacy. "He is devoted to his job and is full of energy," Benish said

McMickle's son, Aaron, graduated from Shaker in 1998.



Carol Fox

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Letters to the editor must be signed.

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The Shakerite endorses Rawson for Mayor

Judy Rawson has the solutions and the ability to reform and change the community

In the upcoming mayoral election, student interests fall mainly on the issues of community development, parking and recreation. Both mayoral candidates, Judy Rawson and Daniel Vovak,

have addressed these issues, but Rawson has been able to present solutions and has shown that she has taken steps toward her goals.

Renovation and restructuring have been the themes of the community in the last few months, and Rawson is in tune with Shaker's need for reform. As a strong contributor to the Strate-

rile IDEA gic Investment Plan, Rawson is not only helping launch Shaker into the millennium, but is also respectful of the traditions and standards of the community. As a 25-year resident of Shaker, she has seen the growth and development of Shaker, and she is in touch with Shaker's past and in control of its future.

opment problem areas and cites possible solutions for them. The points include renovating Shaker Towne Centre and fixing the traffic on Van Aken Boulevard by putting in a traffic circle.

Rawson has also been working to reform the housing problems in

Shaker, most notably along Lee road.

Vovak's approach is different. While he addresses the possible need to restructure the Van Aken intersection, he criticizes the city's bureaucracy, saying that the planning department could run with a mere three members. He says that the city's focus should not be to open the doors further to outside businesses, but instead to nurture Shaker's existing franchises.

Futhermore, Vovak dismisses the student parking problem as a School Board issue, although he addressed the issue of running "illegal" kids out of the school system as a city issue. City issues are whatever you make them. Rawson wants to enhance the ties between the city and schools and wants to make the library more

accessible to students. Vovak's failure to address such issues could set up a tradition of passing the buck. Rawson is eager to address school issues, proving to students that the buck stops here.

Another topic of interest, recreation, has come up in discussions ever since Thornton Park's proposed renovation was voted down by the residents. Rawson would like to increase student involvement in the brainstorming stages of city issues.

Vovak's only recreation idea is his "Shaker Lifespan Olympics," a set of games that would strengthen the existing community spirit.

The majority of Vovak's ideas seem to carry this theme of building our strengths and ignoring our weaknesses.

Vovak says that the majority of Shaker residents, those he's spoken to in his walking campaign of Shaker, say they love Shaker. His ideas, seem to merely carry this tune and lack feasible and researched solutions.

Rawson has strong qualifications for the position of mayor. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 1970 with a major in political science. From 1970-73 she was a Legislative Assistant to Senator Birch Bayh of Indiana. She received a Juris Doctorate with honors from Case Western Reserve University Law School in 1976. After three years as an associate with the law firm of Kelley, McCann and Livingstone, Rawson went on to be the Assistant Director of Law for the City of Cleveland from 1980-86. Since 1991 she has been a member of the Shaker Heights City Council.

Shaker demands a qualified mayor with significant experience in local government and a clear idea of the city's issues. After 25 years in Shaker, Rawson knows Shaker's needs and people.

Rawson should be mayor of Shaker Heights because she gives the city it's best chance for improvement. Vote Judy Rawson for mayor of Shaker Heights on Nov. 2.

Vovak lacks more than experience in Shaker mayoral race

By Alex Kolb
Opinion co-editor

Shaker mayoral candidate Daniel R. Vovak simply does not have what it takes to run this city.

Vovak cannot match his opponent, City Council member Judy Rawson, in experience or policy. He lacks any serious plans to improve the city. Vovak's experience is consists primarily of publishing his community newspaper, Movers and Shakers. As a journalist, I can hardly call it anything but a promotional tool for his campaign. Vovak's staff of a handful of writers, one of whom is actually a pseudonym for Vovak himself, fails the test of professionalism. Each issue is filled with news stories that criticize City Council and Mayor Patricia Mearns while promoting Vovak's candidacy. His work is entirely biased and not a single article is without obnoxious editorial comments.

Last year Vovak announced his candidacy in Movers and Shakers with an article he wrote himself under the pseudonym of Irving Gladstone Shakerite reporters were unbable to contact anyone named Gladstone at the newspaper "Gladstone" wrote that Vovak may run for mayor because several readers encouraged him to. Another article last year pointed out the interracial marriages of Mearns' children as well as her lack of a college degree in an admitted effort to paint her in an unpopular light. Vovak occasionally even uses his advertising space as an incentive to Shaker businesses in hopes of swaying their support in this remarkably one-sided election.

The few vague policies Vovak advocates are riddled with contradictions. He threatens to run illegal students out of Shaker schools, though he is merely exaggerating the severity of the problem to play on the fears of voters. He then declares student parking a School Board issue. He doesn't exhibit a clear understanding of the boundaries of city power, let alone how to handle the responsibility of being mayor.

While Vovak's biggest problems among voters are inexperience and

a lack of vision, his greatest fault is his shameless exploitation of

Vovak apparently welcomes any opportunity to promote himself in the public. His newspaper spawned from this desire to be seen, but last February he crossed the line when he held a memorial service for Penny Chang. Vovak's motives were not genuine. He wasn't aiming to comfort the family and increase community awareness. Instead, he used the tragedy to push himself into the public eye. Before the event, he could be seen taping flyers to the walls of the high school, inviting Shaker residents to the service held by "Sheena Vovak, wife of mayoral candidate, Dan Vovak." Odd that they were not family friends of the Changs, but, according to Vovak, only acquainted because he once delivered his paper to her house. Heartwarming? Hardly. The sudden sentimentality was not justified.

Whether or not he realizes it, Vovak is at an extreme disadvantage. Similar to Bob Dole's 72 hour trip across America in 1996, Vovak seems to be mounting a final cry for help by walking across Shaker and visiting homes of residents. He has visited more than 9,000 homes so far and plans to meet all the 30,000 residents before Nov. 2. (When he loses he will have really strong calf muscles.) His composure is a little eerie in that he seems completely unaware of his disadvantage Vovak proudly rattles off the names of newcomers who have taken office in the past as if to say that regardless of the odds, its been done before.

"For the love of Shaker," Vovak should spare every resident both the eyestrain of reading his name on the ballot next month and the junk mail propaganda he sends out twice monthly. Residents should avoid the risk of a freak accident and get all their friends to the polls, lest the office of Mayor of Shaker Heights fall to Vovak's level. As The Sun Press suggested, he should take Movers and Shakers and move out of Shaker.

The issues: policy and protocol, or promiscuity and Playboy?

The upcoming local election can not proceed without bringing to mind the lies and scandal that tainted Washington last year. With the addition of a bombastic governor who can often be spotted in a wrestling ring and an accused cokesnorting presidential candidate, one question comes to mind.

Do we want a repeat of the scandal that tainted Clinton's presidency and Congress? If not, we need to reevaluate the criteria by which we judge our elected officials. Should we as voting Americans care about prior drug problems or sexual promiscuity?

Or is it none of our business?

Does it matter what a president does behind closed doors as long as he governs well? Does an occasional wrestling match for charity or a interview prevent a governor from managing his state? The standards to which we hold our elected officials are as important as the issues themselves.

On the verge of an important local election and on the outset

of a crucial national campaign, Shaker students are caught up in the political crossfire. Should we hold political candidates or elected officials to a higher standard then our own?

The Shakerite took this question into the hallways to find out the student body's opinion.



Tiffany Pinkney Grade: sophomore

"Their personal business is their personal business. What they do doesn't have anything to do with me "

Aubrey Watson Grades senior



"Elected officials should be treated the same as us. They should be treated as equal CHIZCH!



Nate Shepherd Grade: senior "Yes, because they are representing us out in the public. They are supposed to be the best of us?

Cameron Buckland Department: Social Studies "We hold them to too high a standard when we pick them and too low a standard when they are in office."





Jamiyl Motaabbed Grade: sophomore "I think that whatever a person does in their private life sould stay private."

Aaron Toppston Grade: freshman "Yes, because if you hold political candidates to a higher standard, then you also have to hold elected, officials to a higher standard."



From Jessethe Body to Jessethe Mouth • Minnesota governor speaks out a little too much

By Debra Kamin Staff reporter

Are the men and women who govern our country designed to be role models? Should they be?

Once upon a time, the people we elected to govern our country were chosen for their abilities, skills and potential as leaders of our nation. For these qualities alone, they were admirable figures, suitable role models for adults to emulate and children to aspire to become

That was once upon a time - before Watergate, Whitewater and the hot water that Jesse Ventura has plunged into with his recent article in Playboy magazine Politics and the respect politicians earn seems to be drowning in a market that feeds on materialism and ignominy.

In a flamboyant interview in the November Playboy, the newly-dubbed Jesse "The Interview" Ventura most certainly spoke his mind, but perhaps opened his mouth just a little bit too wide.

With Miss November gracing a centerfold that divided the story containing Ventura's interview, readers must wonder about the credibility and ethics of Minnesota's governor Ventura makes several intelligent points about protecting our children, legalizing prostitution for health reasons and the national draft. He undermines his own intelligence, though, by adding that as far as he's concerned, his state drink is beer and he wants to be reincarnated as a 38 double-D

The problem with Ventura is that he actually has amazing points to make. For a man who never went to college, admits to spending most of his young years "drinking and whoring" in the Navy Seals and whose first deskjob is his current occupation as the governor of Minnesota, he is extremely astute.

Jesse "The Body" Ventura has come a long way since his days growing up in southern Minneapolis, He stunned the nation by winning this election by a landslide Minnesota residents were shocked when he came through on one of his campaign promises and tax refund checks appeared in residents' mailboxes.

Now Governor Ventura is living up to another standard set by the World Wrestling Federation. The clash between Ventura's old bad-boy attitude and his new suit-and-tie physique can lead to some confusion about where he stands on many issues

Ventura's approval rating was high at the beginning of his campaign simply because he was erratic. He needs to realize that speaking his mind is different than just mouthing off Now when he speaks people are really going to pay attention to what he says No matter how much Mr. Ventura wants to deny it, being governor requires being a leader as well, and it is clear from his extravagant behavior that he is not a very good role model at all.

Ventura takes many a stand on delicate issues, completely blind to the fact that through his fast-talking he is openly insulting many of the Minnesota citizens he

now represents, With his opinions on organized religion, open admittance to a string of illegal activities, and outright refusal to negotiate with anyone who displeases him, Ventura makes a wonderful entertainer But the people of Minnesota elected him as chief executive of a state in the most powerful country in the world. Why? America has be-

come obsessed with celebrities. So downright obsessed that we have become willing to believe that they can do anything. It is why Jerry Springer had a shot at senate seat and Michael Jordan

can sell Sprint better than anyone else. Anthony Edwards plays a doctor on television and is nothing but an actor, yet we believe him when he tells us Key Bank is the best. Why? Because he is a celeb-

Just because someone is a good actor, baseball player, stand-up comedian or wrestler does not mean he is a good politician. Yet we have begun to believe that celebrities can do absolutely anything. For that reason alone, Jesse Ventura is leading the state of Minnesota.

It's time for politicians to stop being actors and actors to stop trying to be politicians. When he crossed the line in Playboy Mr. Ventura made it clear that we need to take more seriously who we elect for public office, because the men and women who represent us actually do carry a lot of weight.

Politicians held to too high an ethical standard

Smala Funka/The Shakerite

· George W.'s drug history has nothing to do with his ability to lead this country

By Alex Kolb Opinion co-editor

Last year's charade of an impeachment process delivered one clear truth. We can't continue to hold our elected officials to moral standards that most Americans can't meet. Nevertheless, now that we are mired in the ongoing debate about George W. Bush and cocaine (did he inhale?), it's clear that not everyone got the message.

Do we really care what people did as teenagers? Most people who head off to college emerge having done things they normally wouldn't, but only when they decide to run for office 20 years later does that behavior become important. Enemies will dig up every buried skeleton of your past and sell it to the highest media bidder. Have you ever done anything that would disqualify you from running for office? Based on the standards that we hold our candidates to, it seems few readers have a po-

litical future. Sadly, someone who has experimented with drugs is more representative of the American people than is Al Gore

Making a spectacle of one misguided politician makes for bizarre political theater. At the onset of his presidential campaign, Gore distanced himself from Clinton by criticizing Clinton's promiscuity and advocating family values -- a curious use of a Republican catch phrase. George W.'s response to repeated questions about cocaine use have evolved from "No" to "No comment" to "I'm not going to dignify that question" to "Not in the last 20 years, and I could pass my dad's drug test, too." All that tap dancing because someone who knew-him-when tipped off a reporter.

We deserve to be represented by candidates who represent us. If we continue to hound every candidate for being human, our choices will be severely limited.

point



Beth Dolinsky Copy editor

Creativity lacking in Halloween

One day a year, we get to dress up as something other than high school teenagers.

One day a year, we're able to turn ourselves into the undead, into creatures from beyond, into our imaginations.

But we don't.

On Halloween, we're encouraged to dress up, to find a costume, and to live a little. We can branch out, explore different realms, and frighten our entire school. Still, most of us either paint our faces on October 31, or drag some old clothes out of the attic and claim that we're being hippies. How can we let this opportunity go to waste?

We're way past the day when we could throw sheets over our heads and still get candy from the neighbors. Most of us are too old to trick-ortreat, and carving pumpkins loses its appeal. If we let these to Halloween traditions slide. how can we lose our grip on what we have left?

The lack of creativity among the costumes shown is amazing in a school of over 1,500 students, how can we all end up wearing the same thing and adopting the same persona when we're finally allowed to be outrageous and unique? There can only be so many clowns and flower children. And a short skirt is not a costume.

On a smaller scale, it may seem that we're just not too excited at the prospect of donning full costume or racking our imaginations for new ideas that have never been tried.

Yet take into account the full picture: We've been offered an opportunity to be creative, expressive and free If we can't even take advantage of these smaller, but still significant freedoms, we will never be able to exercise our rights on a grander scale. Finding an unusual costume for Halloween may seem like a small and trivial rite, but it represents our ability to think clearly, as individuals, and to strike out on our OWN

Every year student council entices us with candy, but it shouldn't take a bribe to drum up spirit. You're well informed in advance. Halloween is on a Sunday, but dress up day is the Friday before You have time to take advantage of our school costume day to try out your gear

So go ahead Start planning Be a lion, a tiger, a bear Be a smurf or a thundercat or a Flinstone Be a Backstreet Boy Be something new, and courageous. I challenge someone to dress up as Mr. Mitchell or Dr Newby Prove that there are still creative minds out there, and people willing to show them off

Brooklyn Art Museum sparks Sensation

Art exhibit causes political uproar, Giuliani seizes the moment

Ahhh, New York. The only place in the world where the decomposing head of a bull covered in maggots and flies could be viewed as art The art exhibit, Sensation, comprising different works of art by young British

"artists," has been touring the world, and controversy has been raging.

Much of the exhibit is acceptable, but several pieces of "art" considered contro-

versial have been singled out and have remained on the front pages of newspapers for weeks. And this is just what the artists wanted. So yes, I know full well that I am merely contributing to the problem by writing this.

This "special" exhibit contains a bust molded out of real human blood, a painting of "The Virgin Mother Mary" covered in obscene

pornographic pictures and splattered in elephant dung, sculptures of young boys whose noses turn into penises and whose mouths turn into anuses, and much more.

The mayor of New York, Rudolph Giuliani, rashly decided to revoke ALL funding from the museum Is this an infringement of first amendment rights? YES. However, I don't care if they had to instill a monarchy to revoke that funding, it needs to be done.

Artwork such as this is a travesty to this country. Has America declined so much that this exhibit could ever be viewed as art?

I truly believe that this is a scam con-

ceived by these conspiring artists to make money. I can easily picture someone sitting in his barn looking at a rotten chunk of cow carcass and saying to his friend Billy-Bob, "Hey Billy-Bob! What if we done took this here piece o' meat and pretend it were all fancy artlike. We could put in a musheum and then we git paid lots o' money by all the high-falutin' types that think it was art." And the funniest part is there are many incompetent fools who have no loftier way to spend their money than on these inexperienced artists

That is why, in my opinion, each artist should be clinically scrutinized and recommended to some institution that can help their sick mind. Truly, how can the mayor expect to endorse a museum that is not even appropriate for children? These people would be much more of a benefit to society if they were planting fields in their black and white striped uniforms. Not to mention that it should be illegal to waste time with such unimportant projects anyway. Anyone who has the time to make such art is either unemployed, or will be soon, and should be forced to take self-help classes on how to better his life.

If these "artists" want to exhibit their art in Joe's Museum of Disgusting Pictures, then that is fine. No one is saying that these people are not free to exhibit their art. If they want to, they can print copies of their art and display them all over Central Park, handing them out to every individual who passes. But no one should have to pay for it.

If the majority of New York City does not want to have anything to do with the funding of this exhibit, then the mayor surely has the right to revoke funding.

In this great country of ours, our Supreme Court justices debate the meaning of the Constitution. Occasionally, the high court deems

COUNTERPOINT

existing laws in violation of our constitutional rights, and Congress creates news ones in an effort to better serve the citizenry

However, at times it appears

that the federal and state governments are taking away the rights that we value most. Most recently, thanks to New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, government is trying to define art. This is unconstitutional and a clear attack on the First Amendment.

How did the government achieve this perversion of poetic license? Where did our mayors and congressional representatives ac-

> quire the authority to decree what kinds of unique, creative expression are appropriate symbols of our times?

They didn't And as citizens of the United States, it is our democratic responsibility to ensure that they don't.

People are enlightened and uplifted when an artist, in an uninhibited fashion, transmits the sense of pessimism and chaos that permeates post WWII society. Why persecute artists for depicting the problems that ail society? The proverbial messenger shouldn't be killed for the content of the message. Perhaps the role of the critic begs analysis before artists are harassed for their contribution.

Furthermore, to revoke the funding of the Brooklyn Museum of

Art at a time when there isn't enough support for the arts in the first place would be detrimental to society. If we choose not to appreciate or patronize the arts any further, then we lower the status of society and damage the creative morale of generations to come.

Cutting the funding of the Brooklyn Museum of Art is ridiculous. What comes next? If Mayor Giuliani can cut funding to a public art museum, then next week we won't be able to swear in public or protest a trial because he will find those forms of expression distasteful, too.

The most pathetic aspect of this transparent, political charade is that Giuliani's intense drive to stop this exhibit and take funds from the museum spawns from his bid for a Senate seat. His indignation grows not so much out of his Catholicism, but out of his desire to appeal to conservatives throughout New York in preparation for his upcoming senatorial bid.

Art is in the eye of the beholder. Who is anyone to say that a shark preserved in formaldehyde or a Virgin Mary that defies traditional depiction is any less a social criticism or a sign of our times than Botticelli's Birth of Venus or Cadmus' Coney Island were of theirs? Each individual finds unique meaning in art, and just because an exhibit sends conservative America into an uproar doesn't make it any less a work of art. Is El Greco's perspective of Jesus dying on the cross any less accurate than this view of the Virgin Mary? Who are we to say?

Art, like beauty and meaning, is in the eye of the beholder. If just one person is moved in either direction by Sensation, then it is art that deserves to be seen

Megan Johnston

Anand Thomason

Invisible line polarizes the dance floor

Crosby tackles division of races on the dance floor

By Meghan Crosby Guest 'riter

Shaker Heights is known for excellent schools and praised for its race relations. Yet how can we truly claim the latter when socially, we are obviously strained?

Saturday, Oct. 9 was our long-awaited Homecoming dance There were pictures, music and glitter galore. Everyone danced Everyone looked great However, there was a tension. It seemed as if a line, a divider of

sorts, was etched across the gymnasium floor. It was invisible but it existed. This line was a color line Quite frankly, the blacks and whites claimed their separate halves of the dance floor, though few cared to address the situation.

Homecoming is supposed to be a gala, a time for students and alumni alike to come together it is a time to congregate and celebrate. This should include a celebration and appreciation of our differences. Instead we have failed to acknowledge each other. When we claim to be comfortable with one another and vow to look beyond our ethnic comfort zones, by polarizing, as was displayed at Homecoming, we fail. When members organizations such as SGORR make no effort to live up to their gospels, when we cannot see our teachings applied, we have failed.

This separation is a prime example of the subtle but voluntary segregation that infects Shaker Facing the dawn of a new millenium, it is scary to

think that integration is not, by now, natural. It is even scarier knowing that socially, it isn't totally safe

I summon a re-evaluation. Now is the time for all to question how far ahead we really are in this great race. Racing to a safe place. Struggling with this thing we call race.

Our policy states at letters to the editors must he signed. We received an unsigned letter. If the writer wishes to have it published, he or she nust identify themself to the editors in chief or chisor. Contact us via a note in Ms. Sekicky's



The real deal on slumber

People are easily

BY SHAILA SHAH AND LIA SILVER Centerprece co-editors

Sleep-starved Shaker students are among those who can best appreciate the servation of climbing into a warm, soft bed for a good night's rest after a long, hard day of work.

The subject of sleep is

awakened. They are still is bot topic among scientints. Sleep disorders surroundings but heart have been linked to many rate decreases and their diseases, and research THRESCIES FEREX. suggests that the average teenager doesn't get enough sleep to function to his fullest Recently, some schools around the coun-

the school day While most of us are grateful for these few hours of undersurbed bliss. Few of usever controler the journey we embark.

upon when we close our even. Scientists long ago realized that sleep actually entailed a cycle of four district. progressive stages followed by a dreamy sequence known as-REM sleep, when your mond and muscles are active. The four stages range from a light sleep that is easily interrupted to a deep sleep in which your beart rate decreases, your brain activ ity slows and your moveles relax The four stages leading up to REM sleep

worch stage of alcep is the most in-

tast for about 90 minutes

Deep sleep and quiet sleep are just as night lerrors in stage four sleep and wake important as REM sleep," Heien Murphy. psychology professor at John Carol University said.

Students who do not Stage Three get enough Heart rates drop tirep fall into People who lack sleep sleep debt. in this stage. The only way will feel tired to get out of the next day debt is to

sleep far more than the average requirement a tough task for tecnagers.

Chridren need sleep primarily because their bodies are still growing," said Dr

Jenjanin. Wallace profensor of psychology at Cleveland State University

Students are never too tired to talk about their lack of

I stay up until about midnight doing

"I get about six hours of sleep because the same time because I get fired and I just go to sleep," sensor Stephanie Chin said.

Stage Four

occur in this stage

REM sleep follows --

brain activity

eyes move rapidly

homework and talking on the phone. I delinitgly think that I pred more sleep, even thaugh I'm not usually that tired during

class," said sophomore Nicholas McCarthy.

Other students get the prescribed. amount of sleep but still find themselves tired out by their work load.

Not getting.

enough sleep

isn t the only

problem that

"I go to bed at 10 and wake up around 6. It should be enough sleep, but I'm usually pretty tired. I get uptry have even contemplated a later start to in the morning and I feet like I'm not really awake," said sophomore Allison Waithe.

> Other students find themselves having to decide whether finishing homework or getting enough shut-eye is more important.

"I get a los of sleep in about eight boots. But, that a because if I don't get my work. done by a certain nose, I go to bed any

way, junior Mary Cantley Stage Two Thought:

are incomprehensible and people grow less aware of their surroundings They are still easily

people face. wide variety of aleep disorders that affect about 10 percent of all U.S. citizenx. Although most of these disorders occur mainly in adults, children can suffer from

up strangling their pillow or licking at the

Disorders are the mability to go through stages of sleep. Disorders include narcolopsy, the propensity to fall asleep anywhere and at anytone, sleep appear, which is when a per son's airway becomes blocked.

and insomnia. It when a person of unable to sleep Some students suffer from not

sleeping or not getting the same amount of sleep every night, are not neces surely insomniaci

"I don't sleep the same amount every night. Homework varies and there are too many things to do," sensor Josh

Larvin said Waking is difficult. Dreams can The average amount of sleep but are rarely remembered necessary for high school and college students increases, muscles contract and es at least seven to eight hours.

"I go to bed at

Getting enough sleep is a perpetual challenge for many people. Busy schedules and sleep disorders make it tough to get enough of the four kinds of sleep. According to the Stanford University Sleep Research Center, about 10 percent of U.S. adults suffer from sleep disorders, including insomnia and narcolepsy. Researchers say adolescents should sleep eight to 10 hours a night.

One too many sheep

BY JESSE GRIFFITH Feature co-editor

Who doesn't love a soft and cuddly sheep? Any person who suffers from insoming sore docun't.

I feel my love for these fourlegged cotton balls fade with every hour on a alcepless night.

have recently become well acquired with the late night bours. At 2 in the morning when the world is still, the house I have grown up in becomes a whole new loathsome world

The leaky faucet, muted during the day, becomes a waterfall. Every drip brings me closer to insanity. At I aim, when the house is still and my whole family is

asleep, every shadow seems out to get me. Every tick of the clock is amplified, striking fear into my

Much to my chagrin, these

nightmarish events have become a furnitar routine as I try to go to sleep each night

My screwed up alcoping schedule begin a week before spring semester finals last year

According to psychologists.

the majority of those who suffer from imomnia are plagued by stress. Although at the time I didn't think there was enything to be stressed about, my mind and hody were well aware of the finals

should have been studying for Recently, in my psychology class, we studied sleep disorders. During that unit, I learned that under stress, the nervous system

to be worked up about, often something tugs away at your mind in my experience, those subconscious worries are respon-

sible for sleepless nights. Due to stress, my cyclids refused to grow heavy when my normal bedome would roll around Instead, they became wide 1 found myself to awake that sleep

will keep the body alert to that

things could be accomplished

Even if you feel there is nothing

rarely arrived until my alarm. sounded, forcing me cut of bed

My sleepless partern coninued throughout the surrever, that something hidden within the depths of my mind was causing stress and insomnia in my life.

With revision year well underway, there is always something that I should be doing. So much sruff needs to be done

Let me tell you Insomoume't fun Granted a suerise on a group fall morning in beautiful, but not when you've seen the thy evolve from dark to light whos trying to follow sheep to

Analyze this! Keys to your dreams

for soda. After weighing my options carefully, I stood up and couldn't see the door at the top. For some reason. I headed on up ogs

That a when the weird stuff enon of remembering dreams, var-

Every time I look one step fostep closer to my ultimate goal of ment door moved farther away. I felt myself losing my sense of balthe statrease twisting and contorting, spiraling up to an unseen opening to the first floor of my trieval house I began running as fast as I ran fast enough, I might beat the staircase to the top. I can fester upon looking behind me and realizing that their was no way back. The walls turned into blurry as I had given up hope of ever es- shops.com. caping, a rectangle of light appeared before me. Almost crying. doorway and into the kitchen. where I opened the refrigerator door and pulled out a cold can of soda. And just as I was about to savor the fruits of my labor in one hearty gulp of sugary carbonated goodness ... I woke up.

Sound familiar? Even if you've never endured such a nightmarish quest for Coke, most people can adentify with the shock of waking suddenly from a vivid dream. can't tell you how often I hear people saying, "I had that really weird dream about John Lennon

I was sitting in the basement ways have a tale to tell about when I got this incredible craving their nighttime visions. And that difference isn't randown.

"Some people are better at walked toward the stairs. As I dream retrieval than others," said. tooked up. I noticed that I John Rehak, a psychotherapist who specializes in dream psychol-

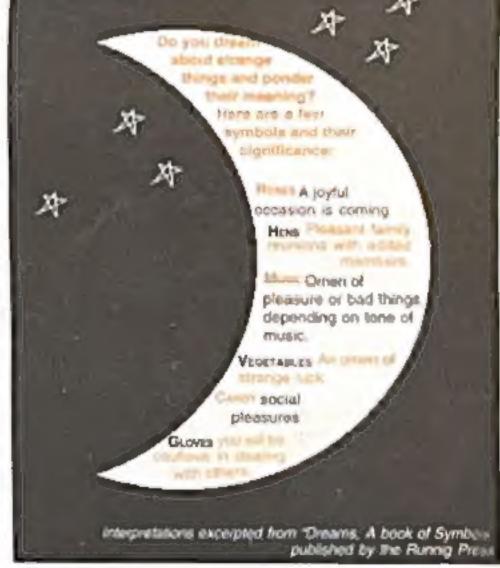
Dream retrieval, the phenomies according to how deeply a person sleeps. Rehak said that ward the top of the stairs and one - people who sleep deeply more of ten remember their dreams upon total thirst satisfaction, the base- waking up. Stress and nutrition affect how deeply a person aleeps and how often he or she rememance, and as I looked up, I saw bers dreams. High levels of stress and depressants such as alcoholprevent deep sleep and dream re-

The meaning of symbols in I could, thinking that somehow, if dreams as well as the rate of dream recollection varies from person to person. However, there are a few universally accepted interpretations of dreams, according to Michael Thiessen, who ofstreaks as I 200med past, and just fight them on his website.

The presence of other people in dreams is generally thought to for joy, I walked through the be representations of the dreamer himself. Dreamers place themselves in other bodies to escape ner conflict. responsibility for personality traits or to temporarily acquire de-

A say person may dream of another shy person to place the blame of being shy on someone else, or a loud person may dream of a quiet person because he wishes he were a little more quiet.

Other symbols have more concrete connotations. Vehicles can symbolize direction in life, death can symbolize change, and any again. "Some people rarely re- kind of violence symbolizes tencall their dreams, while others al- sion between two people or an in-



However, interpreting not sowell-known dream images presents a challenge due to an unusual language barrier

"The language of dreams is not the English language," Rehak soid "It is symbol language."

Rehak said that the difference between interpreting dreams in our language and interpreting dreams in symbol language is that or fear, while dream symbols are causes them. not so clear cut.

"Bad dreams are never bad

The person just interprets it as bad," Rehak said

What dreamers interpret as nightmares are often just challenges, Rehak said. These challenges can be dilemmas faced in real life or inner conflicts that have not yet been realized.

"We work out our everyday reality in dreams," Rehak said.

While stress and conflicts seem likely to stimulate dreams, we analyze things based on love no one knows exactly what

> "The dream world is wild," Rebak said. "It can't be tamed."



Many refer to Super Kmart as a playground, but our job is to deliver the truth to you: IT STINKS!

By Jesse Griffiths and Nate Auerbach Feature co-editors

It's not faster than a speeding bullet, it isn't nearly as powerful as a locomotive, it can't leap tall buildings in a single bound. It can only be Super Kmart.

A visit to the superstore large enough to have its own vip code has become a trend in the latenight lives of teenagers who are in search of cheap entertainment. With the movies now affordable only to Van Sweringen mansion owners, high several

school students have pinpointed a new haven for random jolliness.

Your adventurous Feature coeditors have once again escaped the oppressive confines of The

Shakerite office in search of a new exciting place for you to hang out

The place: Super K, located across from Southgate Mall on Warrensville Center Road

The verdict: Don't waste the gas.

> As we ventured into the building on a cold, rainy October night, we inttially bolted to the video games, which weren't even on. We searched for an outlet in which to plug them, but lost all interest within a matter of minutes.

After drying our tears, we hurried over to the men's underwear section. Nate was stoked to find a new pair of Scooby Doo boxers to add to his collection, but decided the ladies

Dan Moody'The Shakertte

Josep Griffits/The Stateville

As Halloween looms just outside our grasp, Super Kmart awaits those looking for last minute costumes, candy and ghoulish decorations; however, that's not all this establishment is good for. Some sleepless Shaker students with nothing better to do on the weekends escape to Super Kmart, which is open 24 hours, seven days a week, to frolic in the endless sisles of amusement. Aithough you can purchase everything from apples to zebra striped underwear, the employees and fellow shoppers aren't as friendly as one would like to think.

would be more attracted to a man with Tigger in his pants.

Along our trek to the other side of the store, we were surrounded by aisles upon aisles of pro wrestling apparel and other such merchandise.

We reached our next destination, the lovely land of fishing tackle, hunter's bright orange and camouflage. Orange hats are really neat, but walls and walls of them require UV protection. We

played in the demo tents for a while and woke up the next morning to look for fun people to talk

Much to our dismay, the employees of Super K are not nearly as friendly as those who toil at Cleveland Hopkins Airport.

Additionally, the regular shoppers at this store have no interest in meeting new, fascinating people.

Hence our message to you la-

dies and gentlemen is to keep your distance from Super K. It is an overrated experience. Unlike Giant Eagle, it does not offer a year's supply of cookies for a dollar. Compared to the airport, it has nothing exciting to offer to teenage pop culture.

We, your feature editors, will do our best to serve you, our readers, better with our next random place to visit, yet to be decided.

Feed your face in a greasy place, all night

By Justin Gurney

Managing editor

It's 2 a.m. and you have the munchies. One problemthere is no food in your cabinet. Only leftovers lurk in the fridge, and your stomach is beginning to gurgle.

You can try to go to sleep, you can cry or you can quench your appetite.

Just because the sun goes down doesn't mean the food isn't being cooked, but I don't have to tell you that. Shaker students seem to be well acquainted with the art of late night eating.

"There's nothing better than grease at the end of a long night of partying," senior Adam Moore said

Popular nocturnal restaurants, Best Steak and Gyros across from Shaker Towne Centre, Chuck's Diner on Lee Road, Michael's Diner at Shaker Square, Denny's Wilson Mills by I-271 and Mama's Boy across from Chuck's, all provide continuous service and let

customers have fun after

"I go to watch high boys trip all over themselves."

JEANNETTE GREEN Senior

hours "The food is great, and there are usually big groups," sophomore Deserce Johnson said

"The people that work at Steak and Gs are nice. They tolerate us juveniles," junior Andy Molloy added

Late night dining and atmosphere are essential to the well being of humankind, especially teenagers. High class restaurants might take a few cues from the service and fun these restaurants provide.

There is always something exciting goingson sarry an

the morning.

"I saw some girl beat up some dude in the middle of a restaurant," senior Marty Calabrese said. "I tried to hold her back, but as soon as I let go she just jumped all over him "

"I go to watch high boys trip all over themselves," senior Jeannette Green said.

"Most people there are usually inebriated," Molloy added.

There is no doubt that up-all-night eateries are well used and respected by teenagers, but believe it or not, some adults just can't get enough of the 3 in the morning cooking

"It doesn't sit well with me, I'm trying to do less," physical education teacher Stuart Gilbert said of 24-hour food, "I go there because I'm hungry" Gilbert added that he doesn't have a favorite because it doesn't matter when he is hungry.

This leads to the most important question of them all. Where is the best place to go when

you just can't sleep? After much interrogation, most Shaker students wandering the halls and sitting in the social room gave a re-

sounding "Steak and Gyros" in response "Chuck's is bad, Denny's is cheap and not too great, but Steak and Gyros is easily the best," Moore said

"I go there at 2 or 3 in the morning to get my grub on," Molloy said_"They make a mean Gyro."

to Jibbi my God Stoak and Gs has some mean morrangila

sticks," Green said

When your belly needs some grease, go to Steak and Gs, but stay away from Denny's at all times, say students.

"Denny's is dirty," Calabrese said. "Denny's doesn't like black people," senior Tony Moss added

In fact, the knowledge of late night diners at Shaker is so extensive, that if there were a class titled "All-Night-Restaurants," above average grades would not be hard to fourth graders and high new. Because I akf 86021



all night eateries. On any given night of the weekend, Best Steak and Gyros, located

across from Shaker Towne Centre on Chagrin Boulevard, is populated with hungry

When the clock strikes midnight and stomachs start to rumble, Shaker students turn to

teenagers looking to score some grub and laughs.

Water springs to the top of drink market

Agua companies join Starbucks in quest to take over the Earth



ater, water everywhere, but... we pay for it?

More and more, students are buying bottled water as an

alternative to tap water and drinking fountains.

The bottled water industry is booming. Water sales in the U.S. rose 9.5 percent to \$4.3 billion in 1998, according to Beverage Marketing Corp. in New York.

Bottled water sales showed growth higher than that of fruit beverages, soft drinks and beer combined.

The industry is now so prominent that there is even an International Bottled Water Association that holds annual conventions and trade shows.

The association lists 46 recognized bottlers. It warne that labels don't always tell the truth, and that "spring water" can come from most any source in the United States.

To play it safe, consumers are encouraged to read ingredients carefully.

B.W.A. also makes distinctions between mineral water, purified water and processed water.

Whatever procedure the water has been put through, some students are tempted to pay for bottled water because of the taste.

[Bottled water] tastes cleaner than regular water," senior Tia Hunter said. Junior Rania Karim agreed. "You can

taste the difference," she said. In fact, these students may be correct. According to Kristin Saltzgiver of the National Testing Labs, chemicals and dis-solved solids can be present in tap water and can alter its taste.

Some other students drink bottled water simply because it is easier to transport.

"My mom orders it by the boxful, so I just grab a bottle on my way out of the

water thought up more creative reasons.

"Evian spelled backwards is Naïve. How stupid can you be?" senior Aaron Viny said. "I'd never buy anything from a company called Naïve."

More brands of bottled water are appearing on the market. An industry for-

merly dominated by Evian has grown to include brands such as Aquafina, Crystal Geyser, Mountain Valley Spring, Deer Park and Dannon, among others.

Advertisers for these companies cite freshness and purity as reasons to buy their product.

Evian's clever promotion says that "Evian Natural Spring Water is not treated or processed in any way. It is naturally pure.

On their website, they declare that "Several hundred tests are conducted source and after the water has been bottled to verify the consitency of the mineral composition, the absence of pollution and the quality of the plastic bottles.

Even McDonalds

jumped into the water market. According to an employee of the Richmond Heights McDonalds, the restaurant's bottled water, which has been discontinued due to sagging sales,

came from the tap. It just had a label and costed \$1.29. Whether students drink the water for the tests run on it, or the label on the bottle, they see bottled water as a form

of habit. "Once you get used to drinking it, you kind of get addicted," Karim said."



More students have begun to chug water by the bottle in recent years, like freshman Nikki Goldstein. The bottled water industry is growing immensely in number and sales have surpassed those of soda or juice. Everyone seems to want in on the action. McDonalds even tried their hand at selling their own bottled water, equipped with a spiffy Ronald McDonald label. Whether this has become a trend due to the special processes through which the water in the bottle goes or just because of the handy bottle, Shaker students definitely see drinking bottled water as habit forming.

house," senior Andrea Abramoff said.

However, the tendency to drink bottled water seemed to vary with gender, as more females than males revealed that they drink bottled water. The stereotype of it being a feminine drink has been rooted into American culture.

Bottled water critics cited expense as a downside.

"It makes me mad that people are willing to pay money for water," senior Jon Youngner said.

Others who oppose drinking bottled

Facing their first year together

High school rookie Bursi guides freshman class

By Megan Johnston Staff reporter

One of the most prominent additions to the high school faculty this year is Principal Assistant Marianne Bursi.

Bursi's extensive experience spans 15 years, beginning with her graduation from Arizona State University. Bursi then kindergarten taught through eighth grade in Arizona for 10 years.

Bursi's next stop was Onaway, where she taught the ARP course for three years. Then she worked at Onaway as staff assistant.

Now Bursi is in charge of the class of 2003 and has found that there is a big difference between fourth graders and high

school students

"The high school is very active and energetic and challenging in that the number of students that I supervise is more than all of Onaway," Burst said

teacher

Despite the immense size of the high school, there are some welcome similarities. Bursi has more than 100 kids whom she knew when she was at

Onaway. "I think it is a comfort for them to know that I am new. Because I am new, I

move slower and think things through for them which gives them more time," Bursi said

There are other similarities. "I was in charge of discipline and lunch at Onaway, just like I am here," Bursi said

Bursi brought with her much of what she learned at Onaway. "I brought lots of techniques for interacting with students from Onaway I have learned a lot about interpersonal relation," Bursi said

Bursi does have to overcome her share of obstacles. "One of the biggest challenges is trying to find some incentive for getting kids to attend classes and fulfill their obligations here as stu-

dents," Burst said

Fortunately there are many rewards that come with the job. "One of the greatest rewards is having the parents call and say that they are really appreciative for me taking time and interest in their child --I am very detailed -- like a detective and I think parents and teachers appreciate the thoroughness and commitment," said Bursi

"She is very hard working and concerned with the students," said secretary Roberta Donaldson. "She is a great motivator for the kids."

Students here at the high school have managed to strike awe in the heart of this faculty addition. "I was surprised by some of



Shaker's new assistant principal, Marriane Bursi, came to the high school from Onaway.

the far-fetched and outlandish stories that are created as extravagant excuses for misbehaving," Bursi said laughing.

According to her colleagues Bursi is sure to be an effective and important addition to the faculty.

"She is a great asset to our administrative team," said tenth grade unit principal Ovella Roulette-McIntyre.

MTV: the station of a generation

Video channel enjoys its nineteenth year on the air

By Megan Kortemeyer A&E editor

Twenty years ago the idea that would start a cultural revolution and identify a generation was born . . . in Columbus, Ohio

That's right The powerhouse now known as MTV began as an inventive, risky idea - not in Cleveland, the home of rock 'n' roll, but in our state capital

The network had humble beginnings. It would be three years after the idea was formed before MTV hit the airwaves playing the prophetic song, "Video Killed the Radio Star." It would take another year before it even debuted in two of the nation's biggest cities, Los Angeles and New York. In the spring of 1981, fewer than 25 percent of the nation's homes had cable, let alone a 24-hour music station.

When MTV first began, the channel was going to follow a never-seen-before format, according to Tom McGrath's book, MTV: The Making of a Revolution. It would feature one song after another, similar to radio stations. The station was trying to appeal to 12- to 34-year-olds, a sector of the population television executives called TV Babies because they had grown up with television. Ultimately, this group and the generation that followed became known as the MTV generation

It is members of this generation, such as freshman Michelle Krivanek, who make up MTV's viewers

"MTV paints a sort of picture of what's cool and what's not cool. [The station] really impacts what people do and what they think about popular culture," she said.

Once the station began, it wasn't long before it took off

MTV began to influence every part of kids' lives. They talked about it at school, listened to the music it played, and even followed the trends and styles it presented. Barbers in Kansas reported a huge increase in Rod Stewart-style haircuts after MTV went on the air. This popularity was due partly to the fact that mainstream radio had become very conservative. Most stations were playing mostly oldies, a trend that did not go over well with many young people. MTV provided the alternative

This alternative is something viewers

Aug. 1, 1981: MTV debuts playing The Buggles' "Video Killed The Radio Star."

Summer 1982: "I want my

MTV" ad campaign begins.

September 1984: Dan Aylcroyd and Bette Midler host first MTV Video Music Awards

still appreciate today

"MTV gives people a chance to listen to different types of music, types that they might not normally be exposed to. That's what makes it so good," freshman Erik Pierce said. "I like Total Request Live, because they play a wide variety of videos."

Between 1982 and 1984, the station reached its peak. It began to influence every aspect of our culture, including the Billboard charts "I want my MTV" became the catch-phrase of a generation, and the station even overcame accusations of racism and senseless violence in its videos

By the mid to late '80s, however, problems plagued the station. The National Coalition on Television Violence was strongly protesting and ratings were falling faster than anybody could imagine.

Ironically, it was because of this declining viewership that MTV decided to go forward with non-music programming And this, according to some Shaker students, is the cause of MTV's problems to-

"Some of their shows have nothing to do with music. That was what the channel was originally supposed to be about, and now it's hard to find a time when they play music videos at all," senior Erin Roberson

However, some MTV viewers appreciate a break from non-stop videos

"I think if they played music videos all the time it would get boring," said junior Lainie Cohen, who pointed out an MTV

Did you know?

 MTV was originally going to be called TVM (Television Music).

 The second video MTV played was Pat Benatar's "You Better Run" For a commercial, Mick Jagger said, "I want my MTV." He was paid

 After MTV went on the air, one hospital said they "observed ill effects on certain patients as a result

of viewing MTV." Saturday Night Live spoofed the station with DTV (Death Television). Its motto was, "All dead, all the time."

 48 hours after MTV debuted in East Berlin, the Berlin Wall fell.

 Michael Jackson's "Thriller" was considered the most innovative video of the '80s.

 President Bill Clinton was helped in his election by appearing on MTV.

from MTV* The Meking of a Revolution by Tom McGreth

show she enjoys. "I really like watching Darra. I think it's funny,"

Senior Amber Fitch also likes Duria "I think MTV is okay. I really like Total Request Live, when they count down the top videos," Fitch said

Senior Miranda Acree is another MTV viewer who enjoys variety

"I like when they show several types of shows on the station," Acree said. "I think it would be boring if they showed the same thing all day long."

The station whose motto was once "all music, all day" is gone. On an average weeknight, there are two hours of programming unrelated to music videos

Despite these changes from the original format, MTV continues to be a constant force behind both this generation and the music industry.

"I think the station will continue to be a big factor in many things. Right now, they have influence over not just music, but also movies and sports [such as Varsity Blues or MTV sports]. It's good right now, and I feel it will stay that way," senior Lauren Richard said.

> Summer 1995: MTV launches page on the internetmww.MTV.com

Dec. 31, 1981: MTV hosts its first New Year's Eve Ball.

October 1983: MTV is featured on cover of People magazine.

January 1985: VH-1, a sister station of MTV, is launched.

Spring 1992: The Real World debuts.

August 1987: MTV Europe

launched.

Venable paints her way success · After entering several art competitions, Venable comes home with prizes

raider of



Subbas Markty The Shakerite

With Art Department Head Jim Hoffman backing her, senior Kim Venable is ready to continue her commitment to art in college. She is looking at several art schools around the country

By Rob Rains Staff reporter

Kim Venable first discovered that she had talent when she was in kindergarten.

"I remember feeling really good because the teacher would show my drawings to the class," the senior said

Since then, she has moved on to creating bigger and better things, including two pieces that hang in the administration building. Her favorite painting, a self-portrait, marks Venable's first work using oil pastels

"I value because it was my first experience with oil pastels and it turned out really well," she said Though it only took Venable an hour to make, she still feels the portrait was important for her development as an artist "From

there I was able to do other projects involving pastels"

Venable's awards include an honorable mention for the 1999 Ohio Governor's Art Youth Exhibition, first place in drawing at the 1998 exhibition and a certificate of ment. She also has some ideas for the future

"I plan to enter a lot of my work into Scholastics [a national high school art competition] this year. [Maybe] even a portfolio," Venable said

A typical art portfolio consists of eight

pieces of an artist's best work. Venable described the process of selection as nervewracking

"It's really difficult. It's an ongoing process. If you do a work and you think it's portfolio material, you add it " Venable is currently seeking help from Art Department Head Jim Hoffman

Hoffman said that the young artist has talent that knows no bounds. He compared some of her work as a junior in high

school to that of a sophomore in college. Hoffman describes her as "truly artistically gifted " He also feels

that Venable's ability to focus on the task at hand puts her into an elite class in terms of art

"She is an extremely proficient student of art. Her work for the high school is very sophisticated," adds Hoffman. He also disagrees with critics of her work who refer to it as "goth." Rather, he thinks that Venable is able to recognize the darkness in things and encourages people to judge quality rather than labeling

While Venable has received some negative comments about her work from some students, the majority of people appreciate her art

"I hear people say it's depressing and that it's goth," Venable said. "I say to them, 'How many paintings in the art museum focus on people grinning?"

Venable is looking at art schools and putting together portfolios to send along with applications. Her top choices include The School of Visual Arts, Pratt Parsons, School of the Chicago Institute of Art and the Maryland Institute of Art.

Venable's art supplies aren't the only thing she is taking with her to college. When it's time to paint, Venable exclaims, "Gotta have the music "

Her creative juices flow best with sweet musical sounds of Lauryn Hill or Soul Coughing

In response to the recent uproar over the art exhibit in New York City, the young artist said artists set the trends for art and it is up to them to censor themselves "An artist has to decide where they want to push it," she said. "America offers freedom of expression. It is the artist's decision whether or not to set guidelines for their work "

Although some people think Venable's art is dark, she assures us she will not be causing an uproar over her art like the situation in New York City, "Obviously the artist was trying to get a reaction, and that is what art is for."

Movies Three Kings

The first time I ever heard of Three Kings, I took one look at Spike Jonze drawling, "We three kings be stealin' the gold," (immediately conjuring images of a blank-faced James Van der Beek intoning "I don't want yoah life") and decided that watching this seemingly testoterone-powered movie would be a waste of two otherwise perfectly good hours. However, I later decided to give the film a chance. The movie centers on four military officers, played by George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Ice Cube and Spike Jonze, who are disappointed by their roles in the Gulf War and are looking for compensation - in the form of Kuwaiti gold. While the film is powered in part by its many action sequences, its underlying anti-war message unifies the story. From Clooney's graphic depiction of what happens when a bullet enters the body, to Wahlberg's naïve assertion that the U.S. saved democracy in the Middle East, director David O. Russell exposes the truth about America's role in Kuwaiti liberation. For those not interested in political commentary, rest assured that there is plenty to be amused by in this movie. Aligning a serious message with humorous characters and thrilling action results in what should be a blockbuster movie. Three Kings is sure to satisfy any moviegoer's tastes. Lisa Samols



Music Prozzak

OK. About a year ago I sat at this very computer and trashed the popular "fun" music that was sweeping the nation (Shakerite Vol. 69, September). I still don't like the garbage the Backstreet Boys, Ricky Martin and Britney Spears put out, but I must tell of a band that plays this style of music.

They are called Prozzak and are one of the newest bands to take Canada by storm. Their blend of techno-dance and melodic lyrics makes this group stand out

Their debut album, Hot Show, yielded their first hit "Sucks To Be You" and the follow up single "Strange Disease." Both videos have been in mega-rotation on Much Music, Canada's answer to MTV.

Hot Show also contains a great track called "New York" as well as a cover of the

classic "Wild Thing."

Long unavailable in the U.S., Hot Show will be released in the states Nov. 2. To get a preview, check out their web page at www prozzak.com. Name Leven

> the box OFFICE

Through 10/31 Fright Fest Geauga Lake

Through 10/31 Nightmare in Painesville

Lake County Fairgrounds

11/7 TLC with Destiny's Child

Gund Arena

11/12 Live

Agora Theatre

11/14 and 11/15

Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band

Gund Arena

11/21

Counting Crows Cleveland Music Hall

TO THE PARTY OF

Lights, camera, action!

Shaker graduate makes waves in Hollywood

By Rob Rains Staff reporter

Editor's note Jamie Babbit, a Shaker alumna, has just directed her first feature film and is quickly making herself known in Hollywood. She talked to reporter Rob Rains from the set of the WB.

Q: What was it like for you growing up in Shaker Heights?

A: I graduated from Shaker in '89. I did a lot of theater. I was in ensemble from my freshmen year through my senior year. I was the stage manager for the ninth grade play. I also did a cable access show every Sunday. It was called "Teen Scene." It sounded really cheesy, but it was great because we got to work with cameras and everything. We were at [WOIO Channel 19] when it was across from Severance [Mall]. Every Sunday we did a one-hour show. We would write stories about books and television shows we liked. It taught me to become familiar with the camera so I could go on to be a director.

Q. Where did you go to college and what was your major?

Columbia University in New York. I majored in anthropology and liberal arts. I am really glad I did that because a lot of people went to NYU or USC and did film programs right out of high school. I was really glad I got a general knowledge of the world because I think that's important.

Q: What was one thing you regret about high school?

A: I still wish I would have directed a New Stages play. At the time I didn't have the confidence to call myself a director in high school. It took being an actress and an assistant director before I realized I knew as much as the directors.

Q: How did you get your big break? A: I never really got one big break, it was

more steady work all the way along. I



worked at the Sundance Film Festival, I worked for John Sayles and then I worked for a company that financed low budget movies. I gave them a script and they picked up on it.

with Martin Scorsese:

A: It was so lame. I had the worst job, but I didn't care because I was just excited to be there. I had to buy his medication and run errands. I was doing the grunt work. I think it is really important to start at the bottom, though, because then you appreciate what you have. [James] Thornton always said a really good thing, which was "to whom much has been given, much will be expected."

Q: What are your future projects? A: I am actually directing a show right

now. I am working with the WB network. I am directing a television show for them Dawson's Creek rip-off, but it's supposed to be funnier. The episode I directed aired October 14.

Q: What movie are you directing for New Line?

A: It's a movie called Conjugating Nikki. It's basically about a sporled, 23year-old girl who is a nanny in New York City. We're still doing the rewrite on that script so right now I'm supervising the writer and trying to get casting ideas.

Q: What are the major differences between television and movie directing?

A: The good thing about television is that you can work on other projects at the same time. A television show takes, all in all, sixteen days. It's cool because it's a really short job.

With movie directing, you are working anywhere from six months to a year on one thing. It takes a lot of time.

Q: What is it like living in Los Angeles as opposed to Shaker Heights?

A: I went to Barnard College, part of Q: Tell us a little about your internship A: It's much sunnier than in Shaker Heights. Living in Shaker, I would walk up and down Coventry. That's mainly where I hung out, although sometimes I went to Shaker Square.

> Q: What sort of classes did you take as a student?

A: I took mostly AP classes. I did take some [college-prep] math. I didn't love school, I didn't love academics, but I liked them enough to get by [laughs]. I was more interested in other things. In college, I got to focus more on theater and the arts, which I was interested in.

Q: Were you involved in any other extracurricular activities? A: I did a ton of extracurricular activities. I was in SGORR, French club, AFS-ISO, the chess team, and speech and debate.

There's nothing funny about recent movies · Comedies are marketed to generate money, not laughs

By Justin Gurney

Managing editor

You want a laugh? How about I walk naked through a hotel or do weird things with socks and pies. Would that make you laugh?

Such scenes made a lot of moviegoers laugh, to the tune of \$101.5 million, the box office total (so far) for Universal Pictures' American Pie. The film is about four high school seniors determined to lose their virginity before graduation, and its humor is based on the explicit portrayal of every male adolescent's wildest, most disgusting sexual impulses.

Needless to say, what counts as comedy in theaters today has changed drastically in the last decade, from intelligent wit to mindless humor marketed directly at adolescent and young adult males. Although thoughtful scripts such as Bowfinger and Bulworth hit the screens last year, they just didn't compete with There's Something About Mary and American Pie - movies full of sexual jokes and slapstick humor.

"There was a period of time in American film, from Charlie Chaplin to earlier periods of Woody Allen, when there was more quality comedy," said Film as Art teacher Jon Bender "Quality is now hard

to come by." The last comedy to earn an Academy Award for best picture was Annie Hall, Allen's 1977 depiction of a neurotic man (Allen) and his on-again, off-again relationship with Annie (Diane Keaton)

According to Bender, comedy exists in three primary styles - dark comedies, comedies that require thought from the audience and escape comedies. If you take a short journey back to the late '80s and early '90s, clever comedies dominated the market. Robin Williams made us laugh and depicted war with Good Morning granical design and the entitions are absent. There is a subject to the regularity of the large of

Vietnam. Winona Ryder personified a critique of high school social hierarchies in Heathers Eddie Murphy had the world rolling in Coming to America, a comedy in which he played five distinct roles. Skillful performances and intelligent scripts ruled the theaters.

Today, Hollywood's take on comedy has taken a decidedly mindless turn.

Much of today's movie market is driven by one simple fact: the need for profit. And profit doesn't come from thinking-people's com-

"This genre has shifted to focus on commercialized films. Intelli-

gence doesn't sell easily," said Alan hit. Mintz, co-producer of Rudy

Mintz said that of the 10,000 scripts submitted to Hollywood each year, only 2,000 are made into movies. Those 2,000 have the best chance of hitting a home-run at the box office.

"Film making has become a corporate enterprise. It used to be people wanted to make movies, now they just want to make money," Mintz said.

Another factor contributing to the lost art of clever comedy is the disintegration of the independent market. Columbia Pictures and Tristar used to be separate companies competing in the same field. They are now merged with Sony - makers of TVs, VCRs, DVDs, computers, Walkman and Discman, and owners of multi-screen theaters around the country. It's hardly surprising that they care little about the art of comedy. Who has time to care when there's so much cash to count?

Most of the other big movie companies, such as Paramount or Twentieth Century Fox, value dollars over artistic merit. And

studio executives know that teenage boys make the call when it comes to choosing a movie.

"Most male adolescents won't go and see independent films such as Notting Hill," said Doug Brodax, a literary agent who represents writers, directors and producers for television and films.

"Film making has become

a corporate enterprise. It

used to be people wanted to

make movies, now they just

want to make money."

ALAN MINTZ

producer

Producing funny movies is a difficult

because concept people disagree on what's funny. By appealing to a specific group such as males, or more specifically, male teenagers, companies are giving themselves a better chance of creating a

"Comedy has never been universal," Brodax said. "It's almost impossible to make everyone laugh, especially for two hours."

Luckily, one can still find a few films that make an audience laugh and think at the same time. Analyze This and Shakespeare In Love, both examples of thoughtful comedy, managed to stir up excitement at the box office. Kevin Smith, writer of Clerks, Mallrats and Chasing Amy, has become popular with his witty, realistic humor, appealing to viewers of all ages. Unfortunately, there aren't many studios willing to take a chance with writers who rely on minds instead of libidos.

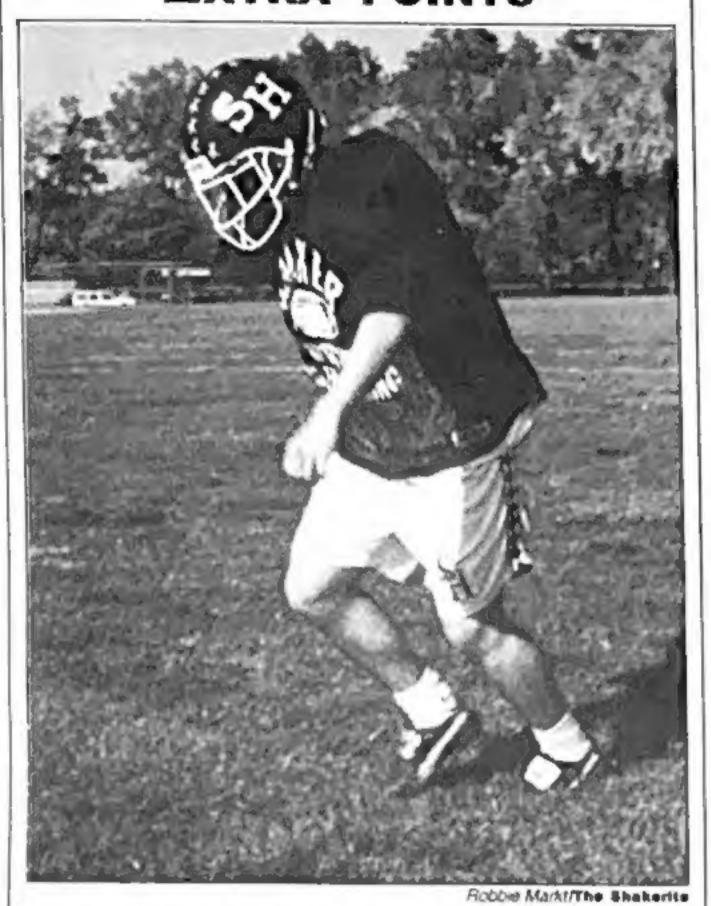
"[If a movie is well done] you can get personally involved with a funny actor and the story, but it just doesn't happen anymore," Bender said.

So what makes a comedy of quality? Bender feels it is important to have a good story.

"The key to a good comedy is in the writing," he said.

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EXTRA POINTS



Ben Woodcock warms up during a recent practice. His skills have helped lead the Raiders to an 8-0 record.

Multisport athlete adds to Raider achievements

By Jenny Heisler Sports co-editor

In case you're worried that your eyes are failing because you think a midfielder from the men's soccer team looks a lot like the guy who kicks ex-

tra points for the football squad, fear not. The resemblance is no



illusion. Junior Ben Woodcock manages to do both, playing midfield for the 13-3-2 Raider soccer team, and kicking extra points, field goals and kick-offs for the undefeated football team. As if that's not enough, this versatile athlete plays la-

crosse in the spring.

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"I've played soccer for about 10 years," Woodcock said, "and last year, I started kicking for the JV [football] team mid-way through the season. I worked with John Manley throughout the year and over the summer to improve."

Manley was the Raider's stellar kicker until he graduated last year. Though Manley left huge shoes to fill, Woodcock has done a solid job in kicker's cleats, going 27-30 for extra points this season.

"Last year Manley had a strong foot," said junior quarterback James Stephens, "but Ben has been very solid and has been more consistent than John."

Scheduling appearances in both contests was a bit of a struggle at first. When the football team played its first game away at Shaw High School, Woodcock had to make it all the way back to Woodbury in just 15 minutes to be on time for a soccer game. Since then, he said the schedules haven't conflicted at all.

A flexible practice schedule enables Woodcock to work with both teams, although doing so means a big time commitment.

"On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday I go to the beginning of football practice to kick and then leave for soccer," he said. "On Monday and Wednesday, I just go to soccer."

Although Woodcock's point total has yet to be bolstered by any soccer goals, he still plays a role in the team's success.

Woodcock credits much of his good experience to the support he receives from his teammates.

"The reason I've been doing so well kicking is because our line does so well blocking for me," he said.

Stephens appreciates Woodcock's abilities. "He's been a pleasant surprise," he said.

PIZZA!

The Shakerite will be selling pizza for \$1 in the egress after school Thursdays.

Field hockey eliminates Stow, 3-0

Shaker looks to sectional semifinal

By Jenny Heisler Sports co-editor

Andrea Abramoff is confident about the field hockey sectional semifinal game tomorrow against Hathaway Brown, Especially after the team's 3-0 defeat of Stow.

"We really came together today," senior goalie Abramoff said after the game. "I'm confident."

Abramoff has every right to be. The girls soundly defeated Stow in the second round of sectionals, facing them after drawing a bye in the first round. Only a week prior, Shaker just barely nipped the Bulldogs at Stow, 3-2.

"We knew we were going to have to be intense," junior forward Alyson Gilbride said

The Raiders got their first edge over the Bulldogs 15:55 into the game. Senior co-captain Kira Muehrcke nudged it past Stow's goalie off an assist from junior forward Gina Lombardo

"As the game went on we got more confident," Abramoff said

Confidence proved to be the winner in this match. At 23:46 into the first half, senior forward Whitney Karfeld shoved it



Junior Jenny Heisler and sophomore Claire Dietrich hope to beat HB tomorrow in the sectional semifinal.

just past the goalie again, after an assist from sophomore midfielder Claire Dietrich. Karfeld tops the Raiders' scoring list with 11 goals. The Raiders managed to knock one more in 6:55 into the second half. This time, Lombardo nailed it into the right corner on an assist from Dietrich

During the last five minutes of the game, head coach Linda Betley substituted freshman goalie Ann Elliott for Abramoff In those minutes, Stow had three consecutive chances to knock it in. However, Elliott held her own.

"This game was greater than any other," co-captain Markt said.

The Raiders have this win on their sides going into the semifinal game at HB tomorrow at 3:30.

"If we played like we did today we'll have a great chance," Markt said.



Yugoslavian tennis star rules American courts

Tesic resides with coach, teacher

By Nicole Majorczyk Sports co-editor

Like two florescent orbs bouncing across the Borko Tesic's court. bright yellow shoes pounds over the clay as he returns a fierce serve.

Yugoslavia sent one of its top-ranked players to the United States to better

his skills Tesic wrote a letter to the Council U.S. High School exchange program, requesting a trip to the United States The procalled Slawson, and he asked the Wonsons to host. When Mary Ann heard about Tesic she jumped at the opportunity to take him in Tesic, will reside with Wonson and her husband, Bob (head men's basketball coach) at their Shaker Heights home for the year. So far, things are

going well "I think he's doing

great He's a really easy going kid. He's really taking school seriously. Borko has been very responsible about things," Mary Ann Wonson said

Tesic has been playing tennis since he was 10 years old His family encouraged him to play because his older brother

played tennis, too. "I play at the biggest club in Yugoslavia together with a team and coach My coach went to University of Hawaii on a scholarship. He is very good," Tesic said.

Though the American courts are quite different from those back in Belgrade, Tesic is thoroughly enjoying his stay.

"I like it a lot. Everyone is very friendly. People in Europe are not as friendly," Tesic said.

The most striking difference between tennis back home and tennis at Shaker



RODDIN Marks The Shakerste

Borko Tesic will join the tennis team this spring, but until then he practices daily after school with coach Allan Slawson.

is the court itself. The difference suits Tesic.

"At home, the courts are made of soft clay, and here they are made of hard clay. The softer court is slower, and for me that makes it harder. I am a fast player and the harder court

makes it easier." Tesic said.

Tesic also pointed out one other major difference between the tennis life at home and abroad.

"In Yugoslavia it is very different. Most athletes don't go to school. They do sports all day," he said.

Raider Wrap-up

Combined Record 84-39-5 Winning Percentage 66%

Football 8-0 10/30 @ 2 p.m.

v. Cleveland Heights Men's Soccer

13-3-2 Beat Chardon 5-0 in

Women's Soccer 7-8-2

first round of sect.

Beat Madison 2-0 in first round of sect.

Volleyball

17-6 3rd in Lake Division

Field Hockey

10-3-1

Beat Stow 3-0 in first round of sect.

Golf

12-15

finished 5th in LEL

Women's Tennis

20-4

Men's Cross Country 3rd in LEL

10/25 @ 4 Walsh Classic

Women's Cross Country 7th in LEL

10/25 @ 4 Walsh Classic

multi accurate as of October 21, 1999

RILEY, WRIGHT HAVE THE RIGHT STUFF

Riley leads volleyball pack

Sport: Volleyball

Year: Junior

Achievement: Riley is in the Elite League of Junior Olympics volleyball with the top players in the area. In the Euclid win she had a total of nine blocks, and Coach Bongini has listed her as a leading blocker for the team. She has been mentioned nine times this year in The Plain Dealer for her achievements in games

Coach's Comment: "Erin's strong net play is the key to our defense, and her hitting and serving always pose an offensive threat." -Stacy Bongini

Favorite Memory: "Our Euclid game, when we all came together and played as a team. It was amazing to work together and it felt so good. We ended up



Riley, heads above her competition, has contributed to the Raider's success this year as the leading blocker.



Erin

Riley

VOLLEYBALL IN COLLEGE, AND MAJOR IN

DEFINITELY

WANT TO PLAY

INTERNATIONAL

BUSINESS."

 Wright's TDs spur football squad

Sport: Football

Year: Junior

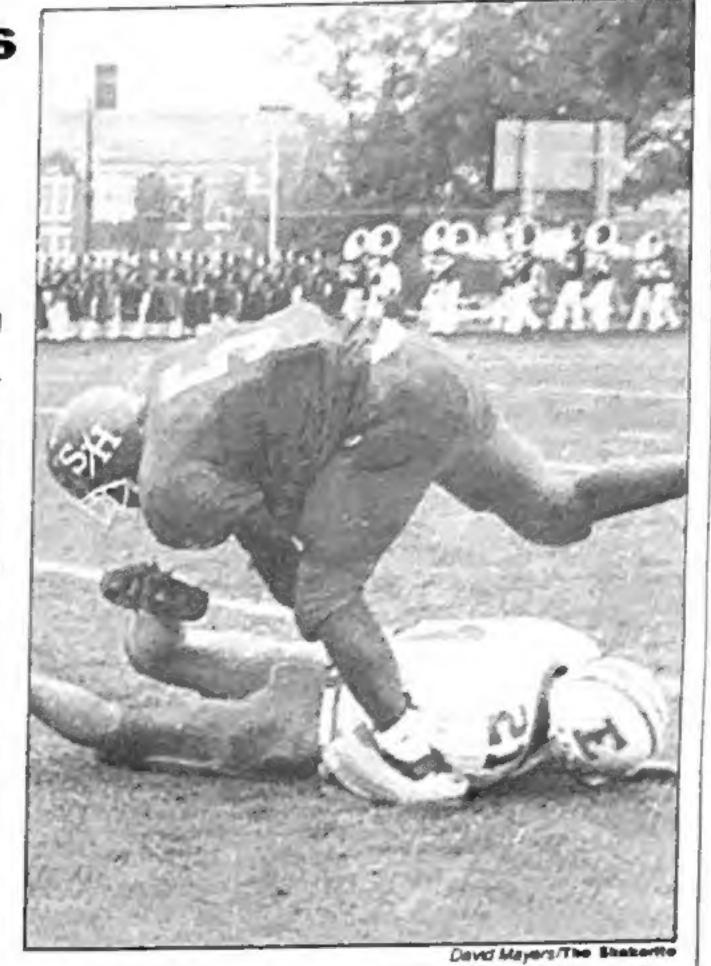
Achievement: Wright has 17 touchdowns through eight games and was named PD Player of the Week in late September. Teammate's Comment:

"He is a positive kid and is also an amazing athlete and running back. -Mike Moore

Coach's Comment: "He's a good player. Tough! He has got a good attitude, plays hard and he's really progressed a lot in the past few years." -head coach Dave Sedmak

Favorite Sports Memory: "Returning a kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown against Euclid. It was awesome!"

Future Plane: Wright hopes to go to either Georgia Tech or Florida State on a football scholarship. Eric Edwidowy



Wright works hard to make it past a defender in the Raiders' win over Elyria. Wright has served 17 touchdowns this season.



Jason. Wright

"HE HELPS **EVERYONE ON THE** TEAM AND GIVES CREDIT TO EVERYONE."

-JUNIOR MIKE MOORE

Debre Kerner

Mastellar inducted to Hall

By Dan George Staff reporter

A recently enshrined hall-of-famer lurks in the basement of the high school.

Former athletic director Jerry Mastellar was recently inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame of Albion College, a division III school that rests about halfway between Ann Arbor and Kalamazoo, Michigan

Mastellar was a fouryear letterman at Albion in baseball and basketball from 1955-1959, posting stellar numbers and earning All-League recognition in both sports

In gratitude for his years of outstanding performance on the playing fields of Albion, the college presented Mastellar with a plaque and placed a bust of him in the Hall of Fame wing of the school.

"It's good to know that after all these years someone remembered me," said Mastellar, chuckling "My coach always said that there's nothing more fleeting than being remembered in sports."

Making Mastellar's induction even sweeter was the fact that his twin brother was enshrined alongside him.

"It was very special for

 Assistant athletic director appreciates recognition me. It's very rare, and it's definitely the first time that twins have ever been inducted in the history of Albion," Mastellar said.

Speaking of "twins," Mastellar's son, Ben, carried on the family baseball legacy and signed with the Minnesota Twins of Major League Baseball.

"The 'twin' thing is kind of a theme," laughed Mastellar.

So how did Mastellar's colleagues in the AD office react to his induction?

"We didn't believe him until he brought in a picture as some solid evidence," joked Athletic Director Dave Sedmak

RAIDERS FROM PAGE 16

"We don't have many big people this year, so we are more of a speed-based team," Sedmak said.

In spite of others' low expectations and injuries to three linemen early in the schedule, Shaker is making progress toward postseason. Sedmak credits much of the success to his senior players.

"The seniors have a good attitude and a good work ethic," he said.

Another factor in the winning equation is hard work and hustle during

preseason workouts. The football squad par-

ticipates in the Bigger, Stronger Faster. weightlifting and conditioning program - they lift weights three days a week and sharpen speed and agility with sprints and plyometrics. (Plyometrics require athletes to repeatedly jump on and off platforms up to two feet high.)

Also, the rumbling Raiders engage in three offseason Spartan Sessions - intense practices consisting of sprints conditioning activities.

have a great coaching

staff," said Jhermel Goss, a starting two-year cornerback for the Raiders.

"Those two factors have made the difference this season," he said.

Sedmak said that continued growth is important if the Raiders are to make a repeat trip to the state playoffs.

Last season, Shaker fell to St. Ignatius in the first round of postseason play.

"Everyone has to play their best every day, and everyone must get better each week," he said.

The Raiders are unde-"We work hard and we feated and are headed toward playoffs.

SHAKER SPORTS BOOSTER CLUB HOTLINE

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6 Shaker Home Games for \$12

Any Sport, Any Shaker Home Site PASSES CAN BE PURCHASED FROM:

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Shaker Sports Booster Club Presidents

Vickie Weinland (991-0754) or Gillian Graham (561-3310)

WEIGHT FROM PAGE 16

nutrients you need," Komblut said.

As a result of the college athletes' deaths, the NCAA banned the use of saunas and rubber suits as methods of weight loss. They also stated that the weight room could not exceed 75 degrees at the start of any training session.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association has also responded.

"The OHSAA has made new rules so that you can't change weight classes in the middle of the season," Brown said.

The weight game goes both ways. Doctors have also begun to study the affects of Creatine, a drug used by wrestlers to increase muscle. Creatine is

actually a steroid-like substance found in human muscles. The drug is similar to natural Creatine, but is used for the specific purpose of adding muscle mass and weight.

According to school nurse Evelyn Wisham, drastic weightloss poses serious health issues.

"They totally throw their electrolytes out of balance because they don't eat and drink enough. Some even take laxatives or wear tight plastic clothes or do extra calisthenics," Wisham said.

The United Sates Taekwondo Union medical coordinator, Trish Bare, recently published an article related to this issue on the USTU web site. Bare states that the best way to make a weight class is to stay within 5 to 8 pounds of

your division weight throughout the season. It should take about three weeks to lose the desired pounds prior to a competition. Losing a lot of weight in a small amount of time damages muscles, organs and bones. In order to stay healthy while losing the weight, Bare wrote that athletes should eat a diet of protien, carbohydrates, fruits and vegetables. Bare also cautions to avoid salty foods because they cause water retention. which hinders weight loss.

Senior wrestler James Dorsey said Shaker athletes don't feel the need for drastic efforts.

"It's not so bad here," Dorsey said. "It's not like at other schools where they try and cut 20 pounds in a week. We cut maybe 6 pounds in a few weeks."





Exchange student rules tennis courts. SPORTS, page 14

Raiders trounce opponents Drastic weight loss

Undefeated football team defies predictions

By Rich Rund

Staff reporter

The football team may be the roughest, toughest, buffest team in the school.

The Shaker Hit Squad has been layin' the smack down on all teams that dare step on the same field as the untouchable Raiders. This stellar 8-0 performance comes as no surprise to anyone ... right?

To the astonishment of certain doubtful football fans, the Shaker football team is undefeated, with wins over area powers Mentor and Euclid included.

This impressive record comes despite fielding only three experienced varsity players at the season's start.

"No one outside of the team thought we could do it," said head football coach Dave Sedmak, who is in his seventh year at the helm.

The team used that widespread skepticism as motivation during the off-season and as fuel for weekly contests this fall.

The 1999 Raiders want to prove people wrong and ensure their place in the tradition of excellence established during Sedmak's tenure.

"Being the underdog makes us want to go out and prove ourselves to everyone every week," senior co-captain and starting center Adam Lazarus said. "We have a lot of pride."

So how did last year's Diamond Dogs (assistant coach Tim Fello's moniker for the rough, hard-nosed but classy 1998 squad) become overachieving underdogs?

Without question, the team lacked experience going into the



David Mayors/The Shakerite #8 Jameson Evans darts past the Elyria defense during the Raiders' 30- 14 vic-

season. The Raiders had only two returning offensive starters from the '98 squad, juniors Mike Moore and Jameson Evans.

tory. The squad's victory came on Homecoming afternoon.

The numbers were no better on defense, with Moore and senior Jhermel Goss the only returning players.

All other starters had limited

varsity experience. However, most played the majority of last year on the undefeated junior varsity team.

The departure of players such as lineman Adrien Clarke (300 pounds plus, now at Ohio State) also left the Raiders with less power and size but more speed.

Sedmak met the challenge by adjusting Shaker's style of play to accommodate the change.

see RAIDERS, page 15

raises health issues

Athletes drop pounds, face fatal consequences

"There is a perception

in the sports world,

which is not always

correct, that you gain

an advantage by be-

ing the big guy in a

weight class."

HANK KORNBLUT

wrestling coach

By Nicole Majorczyk Sports co-editor

Many athletes are willing to pay a steep price in order to succeed in their chosen sports. When that price involves weight loss, however, some athletes pay

Athletes' weight-loss techniques range from drugs to starvation to extreme exercise. Long a staple of weigh-in sports, such

measures went unnoticed for many years until three collegiate male wrestlers died last year. Each tried to drop anywhere from 10 to 20 pounds in just a few days in order to make weight.

the ultimate price.

"We have concern deep

about our athletes' weight," Ath-. letic Director Susan Brown said. "The athletes are growing and should gain weight in a healthy way. Such dramatic weight changes can be potentially dangerous."

Certain sports require athletes to compete at a specific weight, or within a few pounds of that weight. For example, both wrestlers and martial artists are classified by their weights. Other sports such as gymnastics and figure skating don't dictate specific weights, but the nature of the activities encourages lower body weights.

When athletes find themselves overweight before a competition, they often shed weight right up to the day of the match.

University of Michigan wrestler Jefferey Reese died while riding a stationary bike. He was wearing a rubber suit. Prior to riding the bike, he had been in a sauna trying to shed pounds. He had been living on fewer than 1000 calories a day in the week leading up to his death. Reese died of heart malfunction and kidney failure.

"There is a perception in the

sports world. which is not always correct, that you gain an advantage by being the big guy weight class." Shaker head wrestling Hank coach Komblut said.

That perception might convince wrestlers

to lose just enough weight to qualify for the class below their typical wrestling weight.

loss I don tenjoy having kilds cut weight. We don't do it as much as other programs do," Kornblut said. "Kids want to do it drastically because they think it's easier."

All three late wrestlers were top competitors for their colleges and were trying to lose the last few pounds before a tournament.

"Kids want to go to a lower weight class than is healthy for them. If he does it in an undisciplined way, it weakens him substantially. Weight loss should be done properly and responsibly. If you do it over time, you get the

see WEIGHT, page 15

Roocie Mirio/The Shekerite

Volleyball sets up for postseason play

Big regular season bumps confidence

By Jenny Heisler

Sports co-editor

In the face of even tougher competition, the Raider volleyball team topped last season's mark by five wins and fought hard against ranked opponents.

"We played Villa Angela St. Joseph (ranked 20th) and beat them," said second-year head coach Stacy Bongini, "and three of our losses have come to two tough teams."

Bongini cited the one loss to Elyria, ranked third by The Plain Dealer, and two losses to eighthranked Mentor. The Raiders compiled a 17-6 record and finished third in the league.

The improvement came during just the second year of competition in the Lake Erie League's large-school Lake Division, one that pits Shaker against many locally ranked teams.

"We've really improved," Bongini said.

Senior co-captain Tory Ribar and junior co-captain Tracy



Junior Tracy Jacobs gets low in a recent practice. The Raiders improved their record to 17-6 this season, and look on to do better in sectionals.

Jacobs have helped lead the team to success.

"We want to go further this year," Ribar said.

Other key assets to the team have been consistent juniors Ariel Heilbron, Meredith Jones and Erin Riley.

"We have many talented players that work really well together," Bongini said. "We play well when we play together."

Last year, the Raiders won

their first tournament game but then lost a close match to Bedford in the second round.

"We really should've won that game," Bongini said. "This year we should go further."

Bongini and the Raiders hope their successful regular season campaign produces wins during tournament play. They were slated to face Maple Heights Saturday, Oct. 23 in the opening sectional round.

SWEET SUCCESS

Wilson looks to receive the ball in the Raiders' game against Euclid. At center midfield, Wilson has scored five goals for the Raiders. The team finished the regular season 11-3-2. not having lost in their last 12 games. "We're playing better and better each game," senior marking back Adam Moore said. "We're continuing to grow, and looking forward to playing our best yet. No one is injured anymore." Moore cited the leam's 3-0 defeat of Westlake a strong win, along with the team's win over

